

PREVIEWS: 1:144 DORA ■ 1:35 SU-76 ■ 1:35 STAGHOUND ■ AND MORE...

**MORRIS
IN THE MED**

Azi: 3/3 MPI
C9B w/40mm
Bofors gun



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**RECYCLED
RUSSIAN**

Trumpeter's tracked
SAM-6 launcher gets
turned against its
former owners

**AMERICAN
CHOPPER**

Full size reference on
the legendary Bell
UH-1 'Huey'



THE AIR CAV

Dragon's 1:35 UH-1D 'Huey' in a Vietnam War diorama

■ All the information you'll ever need to create the best military models... ■



22



8



16



32



50

REGULARS

- p 4 NEWS**
What's new in the world of military modelling
- p 42 FIGURES**
A round-up of the latest figures on release
- p 45 BOOK REVIEWS**
A look at the latest titles to land on our doorstep
- p 48 LETTERS**
The place to air your comments, suggestions and thoughts
- p 49 DIARY DATES**
A listing of the up and coming model shows and events
- p 58 INCOMING**
New kits, products and accessories get our initial thoughts
- p 66 LAST POST**
We continue a step by step guide to producing simple groundwork

FEATURES

- p 6 PREVIEW**
Jan Peters takes a peek in the box of MiniArt's SU-76
- p 8 MORRIS IN THE MED**
Glenn Bowen reviews Azimut's Morris truck mounted Bofors anti aircraft gun
- p 14 PREVIEW**
The Editor takes a look at Trumpeter's latest and rather unusual subject the U.S. Navy's LCAC
- p 16 PAPER PANZER**
Luke Pitt incorporates some artistic licence while building Trumpeter's E-25
- p 22 THE AIR CAV**
John 'Tigger' Wilkes puts Dragon's 1:35 UH-1 Huey into a scene reminiscent of something from Apocalypse Now.
- p 30 PREVIEW**
Darren Thompson gives his first impressions of Dragon's Smart Kit early Jagdpanther
- p 32 RECYCLED RUSSIAN**
José Brito does something a little different with Trumpeter's SAM-6
- p 40 PREVIEW**
Jeff Adam's previews Fujimi's 1:144 Dora Rail Gun, and yes it is big in this scale as well
- p 46 PREVIEW**
Keith Goldsworthy takes a look at Italeri's version of the Staghound armoured car
- p 50 AMERICAN CHOPPER**
Full size reference for the ubiquitous Bell UH-1 Huey



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NEW BRIT KITS

Following the announcement in last month's Newsline from Accurate Armour of their very impressive looking Churchill TOAD conversion (C066) for the Tamiya kit, we now have a full kit of the quaint little Hillman 'Tilly' in 1:35. Along with the Conway conversion for the AFV Club Centurion kit. Accurate Armour have also announced a kit of the British Army's latest update to the venerable '432' and a Chieftain Mk-7 ARRV again for the Tamiya kit. For more information and prices, please go to www.accurate-armour.com

Hillman 'Tilly' complete kit (K172)

Conway 120mm Tank Destroyer Conversion (For AFV Club Centurion) (C042)

Chieftain ARRV Mk-7 Conversion (For Tamiya Chieftain) (C068)

FV432 Mk-3 Bulldog APC complete kit (K172)



48TH TREBLE TWO

We have just received news that ICM are going to be releasing a 1:48 Sd.Kfz. 222 German Light Armoured Vehicle and having seen their beautiful little 1:72 version, I'm sure this one will be every bit as good, if not better. The model will consist of 69 plastic parts and a couple of etched parts to make the turret anti-grenade screens. As soon as we get one in for review we'll give you the full low down. ICM kits are distributed in the UK by Creative Models. www.creativemodels.co.uk



HAULER NEWS

Just in from Hauler are their latest etched brass and resin updates and conversions. This month we have some great sets for Tamiya's 1:48 range, including a very nice SAS Jeep conversion for the Willy's Jeep included in the Infantry at Rest set and a Bergepanzer conversion for the Panzer III. Hauler products are available direct from www.hauler.cz and in the UK from www.armour-models.co.uk

HLX48227 Bergepanzer III

Conversion parts for Tamiya kit

HLX48228 Pz.beob.wg.IV.J (Panzer beobachtungswagen)

Conversion parts for Tamiya kit

HLX48229 SAS jeep (Africa 1942)

conversion parts for Tamiya jeep

HLX48230 German 2 ton auxiliary jib crane

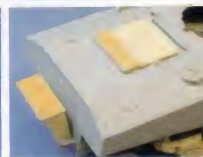
HLX48231 British sand channels

photo etched parts

HLX48232 Stug III Ausf.G resin cast tow bar

CAST RESIN

HLS48005 Pantherturn I (Stahluntersartzt) full kit



RESICAST NEWS

Just in from the Belgian manufacturer Resicast, are these very nice detail and stowage sets designed for use on British Shermans. Together with a set of ration boxes and biscuit tins, make up a bumper selection of stuff to keep Allied armour modellers happy (me included, The Ed.) something no WWII British or Commonwealth vehicle should be seen without. Resicast products are available from www.historex-agents.com or direct from www.resicast.com

35.290 Sherman V (M4A4) Deep wading (lower section only)

Contains inlet & outlet bases, "canvas mantlet" covers and PE mesh.

35.291 Sherman III (M4A2) deep wading (lower section only)

Contains inlet & outlet bases, "canvas mantlet" covers and PE mesh.

35.292 UK tank accessories No.3

Contains enough parts for two vehicles.

35.296 Compo boxes and biscuit tins

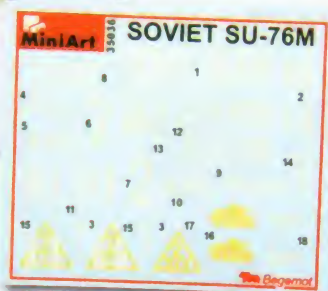
Contains 10 compo boxes (2 open) 19 biscuit tins (various sizes).

35.293 is a stowage set for the Universal Carrier

It contains, like all the Resicast stowage sets enough different parts for two complete vehicles. This set comes with 'crushed' rear bogies for the 'nose up' effect of an overloaded Carrier.

35.299 is a deep wading set for the Universal Carrier

This is a new set and has nothing in common with the old Resicast set (35.210).



Jan Peters has eagerly awaited this SU-76 from MiniArt, but was it worth the wait?

SU-PER 76

It has finally arrived, the long awaited SU-76M by the Ukrainian manufacturer MiniArt. It was announced almost a year ago, but its release has been postponed for quite some time.

After building the very nice T-70 and T-80 tanks, I for one couldn't wait to get my hands on one, and have been nagging the Editor's socks off for a sample. Was it worth the wait? It sure was!

The small, simple, but very versatile SU-76 was developed in 1942 as an infantry support vehicle. It was based on the T-60/T-70 light tank chassis, and equipped with a ZIS-3 76.2mm gun. The original, closed topped, design was rushed into production and suffered many mechanical breakdowns. Production ceased in 1943, and the design was changed. The new version had the more reliable T-70 twin engine design, and was now open topped, for better ventilation and easier operation of the gun. The new design was now called SU-76M, and is the subject of MiniArt's kit. It now was a far better SPG, and it was mass produced until 1945. In fact, it was the most produced Russian AFV in WW2, after the T-34 tank. Crews lovingly nicknamed it 'Suka' or 'Sutchka' which translates to 'bitch' or 'little bitch'.

As said, I was eagerly awaiting this kit, and what a great little kit this is. It consists of 607

injection moulded parts, moulded in a pleasant grey plastic. A clear sprue is added for the periscope and headlight lens. To top it all off you get five crewmembers, a nicely printed sheet of decals and a full colour painting and marking guide. As was to be expected, it has some parts of the original T-70/ T-80 kits, in particular the wheels, suspension and tracks. Detail of the parts is very good indeed, with only some minor flash to be dealt with. Knock-outs are only seen on places that will be invisible after construction, so kudos to MiniArt for getting that right as well! The walls of the fighting compartment are commendably thin, and the detail on the gun is very finely done. The gun barrel and the recoil cylinder are made up of two halves, which will make for some awkward sanding, but with some care the gun will really look the part. Although all access hatches are moulded separately, and thus can be modelled open, no interior detail is provided. With a driver's hatch as large as this, a rudimentary driver's position would be very welcome. A full load of

ammunition is supplied to dress up the fighting compartment. Moulding the rear and side plates of the fighting compartment as separate pieces gives MiniArt the opportunity to bring out more versions of the SU-76, so I suspect a late version will also appear in the future, and I'm keeping my fingers crossed for a ZSU-37 self propelled anti aircraft gun. But that is just me daydreaming... Back to this release! Five marking options are provided, all in green. The Begemot decals are very well printed, on a nice thin carrier film, and should go down well.

As mentioned before, the kit comes with a combat crew of five, moulded to the now familiar high standard of MiniArt figures. Detail is very good, and if you change the heads and maybe some hands for let's say some of the great stuff provided by Hornet, you have a stunning set of figures, making for an instant diorama or vignette.

All in all another excellent AFV release by MiniArt, well worth the wait! ■



MORRIS IN THE MED

Glenn Bowen reviews Azimut's Morris C9B truck mounting the formidable 40mm Bofors anti aircraft gun.

The Swedish firm Bofors designed the gun that was said to be the most popular medium weight anti-aircraft gun of WW2, being used by most of the allied nations and in all theatres.

The Swedish Navy first asked for a gun to work along side the 2 pounder 'Pom Pom' Vickers anti-aircraft guns, which they had purchased in 1922. Bofors at the time only came up with a 20mm gun that never went into production. Then in 1929 the Navy approached Bofors again to see what they could come up with.

In that same year Krupp had purchased a third share of the Bofors Company. Bofors managed to keep the 40mm design a secret from Krupp and in 1930 the first prototype was complete. After many trials the gun went into production in 1933, although the gun itself did not come into British service until 1937. Many claimed at the time that the gun was adopted from the German 3.7cm Flak 43 which was produced by Rheinmetall, but there is still no supporting evidence of this to this day.

The Morris Bofors first saw action in North West Europe, when six were assigned to the 92nd (Loyals) Light Anti-aircraft Regiment of the Royal Artillery which landed with the 3rd British Infantry Division on Sword beach on D-day. These were to protect the bridges over the Caen Canal and the Orne River. These weapons also had a highly specialised role in the North Africa campaign during the battle of El Alamein.





The turned aluminium barrel supplied in the Azimut kit captures the distinctive taper of the real thing perfectly.

THE KIT

This Morris Bofors model is produced by Azimut. The kit is produced entirely in resin with the exception of a few white metal parts and a couple of etch brass frets which contain some of the smaller parts. The model was built following the very basic instruction sheets that are so common with these resin models. The first thing to do was to build the cab area. This was pretty straightforward as most of it is cast in one piece. The only things to be added were the side panels, seats, gear levers, steering rack and wheel.

Next the wheel arches and front radiator were added followed by the front bumper. The final things to add were the levelling cans for the stabilising jacks. These were carried on the front mudguards when the vehicle was on the move.

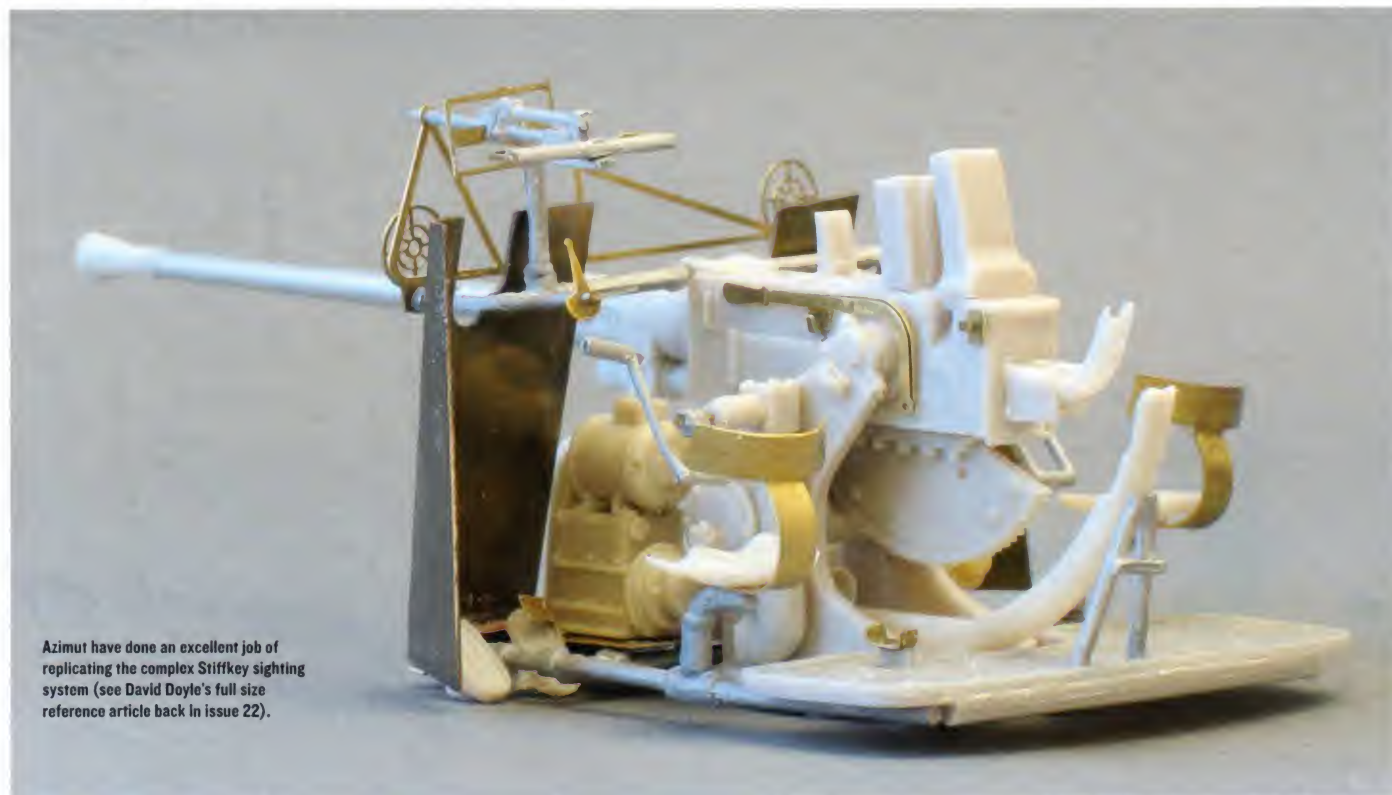
CHASSIS

Next came the chassis and the rear-fighting platform. Again no major problems here, as the majority of this assembly has been cleverly cast as a single unit. The only time consuming area was the support/stabilising systems, which are situated at the front,

rear and either side of the vehicle. These are each made up of four etch brass parts, four resin parts and a length of wire that passes through the middle which acts as the winding mechanism. The last thing to be added to the rear of the chassis was the gun travelling lock, which is a really nice, highly detailed part of the kit.

Now that the chassis, cab area and rear gun platform were all assembled and attached to each other along with the wheels, all that was left to build was the gun itself. This was built up from a white metal platform to which

the resin gun breech and mount were attached. The barrel was added next which has been nicely produced in turned aluminium, whereas the spare barrel carried on the right hand side of the vehicle is resin. Once the gun barrel was in place the guns shields were added and this is where my trusty hold n fold tool came in very useful, thanks to the way it can clamp and fold the etched part all in one go, thus ensuring a perfectly straight fold. This was then followed by the installation of the gunner's handling mechanism. These turned out to be quite heavy, ►



Azimut have done an excellent job of replicating the complex Stiffkey sighting system (see David Doyle's full size reference article back in issue 22).



As can be seen in this view the majority of the kit is produced in resin, with only the gunshield and some of the smaller fixtures and fittings being produced in metal.

/// The kit is produced entirely in resin with the exception of a few white metal parts and a couple of etch brass frets ///



The 'buckets' mounted on the front mudguards are in fact the feet for the stabilising arms which are extended when the gun is in the firing position.



The author chose to paint the Morris in desert scheme of sand and green. For the bleached sand, Tamiya Desert Yellow was airbrushed on followed by a light overspray of Tamiya Buff to impart a sun bleached and faded look. The disruptive green was then masked off before spraying with Tamiya Olive Green.

◀ so super glue would not have held them in place. So I pinned them in place instead. I would say that this was the most time consuming part of the build, this and the fitting of the gun sights. This sort of kit I would say is not for the faint hearted or beginner. In all it took me about two and half days to do. Now I could relax and turn my thoughts towards what colour scheme I would paint it in.

DESERT CAMOUFLAGE

I had two choices for the colour scheme, either khaki drab for a vehicle in North West Europe or a sand for one in the desert at El Alamein.

I decided upon the North Africa colour scheme as I thought this would be more interesting than just a straight forward khaki scheme. The first thing to do was to spray the entire model with Tamiya Flat White. This was done to act as a base colour for the following colours that would follow. It was also done to make everything one

colour because remember we have resin, white metal and etch brass on the model.

Once this had dried, the whole model received a coat of Tamiya Desert Yellow. This was then followed by a light overspray of Tamiya Buff. This was done to give the Desert Yellow a bleached look. Once this was done it was set aside to harden off for a couple of hours. I then set about masking the areas that were to receive the green camouflage pattern. As soon as I was happy with the lay out I airbrushed these areas with Tamiya Olive Green, the masks were then removed and again it was left for a couple of hours to allow the paint to harden fully.

WEATHERING

I like my WW2 models to have that well worn and used look about them, so this model wasn't going to be any different. The first thing to do was for me to add the larger scrapes and scratches. This was done by taking a piece

of Scotchbrite scouring pad and dipping it into some Tamiya Olive green. The excess was then dabbed off onto a cloth and the remainder was then stippled onto the areas were I thought the paint would be most susceptible to wear and tear, such as vehicle access points, walk ways and where the harsh desert sand would blast against

the paintwork. With this completed, the smaller scratches where added using a 000 size paint brush. This part of the painting is very time consuming but the end result is well worth the effort. The same process was used again for the rust coloured tones. These scratches and scrapes were then outlined with lighter colours of ▶



Here we can see the wear and tear applied to the gun ammunition feed housing, the foot plate and shell ejection chute, all areas which would receive the most abuse.

the base mixes. With all this done I could now turn my attention to adding the shadows. These were added to the recessed areas and around panel lines etc. For this I used a mix of Humbrol Matt Black and Burnt Umber oil paint.

Whilst I had the Burnt Umber oil paint out I also added rust streaks here and there.

The model was then allowed to dry over night. The following evening I was on the home straight, all that had to be done was to add the filters and to finish it off with a dusting of Mig Productions sand pigments. For the filters I used various oil colours, including yellow, orange, green and white.

CONCLUSION

This was a real enjoyable model to build. Although it was a bit time consuming in places. Again I would say that this is not a model for a beginner and more for someone with a few years modelling experience under their belts. It doesn't come cheap either so it could be one for the more established plastic modelling companies to get their hands on and do. All in all, I can't recommend this kit enough so if you've got a spare bit of cash and you would like to do something that little bit different then this is surely for you. ■

SPECIAL THANKS

I would just like to say a very special thank you to Mr Paul Wesley for giving me the chance to build this wonderful model for him.

THANK YOU.

Modelspec

Azimut Morris C9B w/40mm Bofors Kit No AZI35018

Materials

White metal, Resin, Etched brass.

Paints used

TAMIYA

Buff 57, Olive Green 58, Desert Yellow 59, Dark Yellow 60

MODEL COLOR

Ivory 918, Dark Green 097, Desert Yellow 125

HUMBROL

Matt Black 33, Chocolate Brown 98

MIG PIGMENTS

Light Rust 24, Standard Rust 25, Gulf War Sand 37

- ✓ Great choice of subject, well detailed.
- ✗ Wish the model was available in injection plastic.

Available from

www.azimutproductions.com

Rating ●●●●●●●○





FROM SHIP-TO-SHORE

The Editor takes a look at Trumpeter's latest and rather unusual subject, the U.S. Navy's LCAC.

If I'm perfectly honest when this kit arrived at the office, it really didn't do much for me, that was until I happened to watch a program on the Discovery Channel not long after the kit arrived, featuring these very impressive machines. After watching the LCAC's in action it sparked my enthusiasm for these craft, so much so that I not only started to look at what was in the box but also to start cutting the parts from the thing and sticking it together.

Packaged in Trumpeter's sturdy box, which seems to be more relevant these days than before with more and more model sales being mail order, making the need for a strong box that bit more important.

The kit consists of six sprues, five in light grey styrene and a clear sprue for the glazing, totalling some 238 parts. The kit also includes a separately moulded hull bottom and cargo

deck along with a very nicely detailed black vinyl skirt. A fairly large etched brass fret is included for the windscreen wipers and the numerous intake grilles, some 30 in all!

Detail throughout is good, admittedly some of the smaller fixtures and fittings such as ladders maybe a little over scale.

A large waterslide decal sheet is included which features all the necessary markings and stencilling that adorn these huge machines.

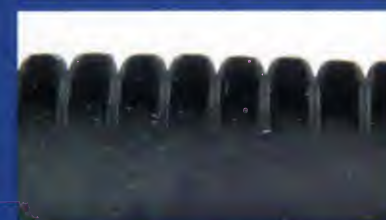
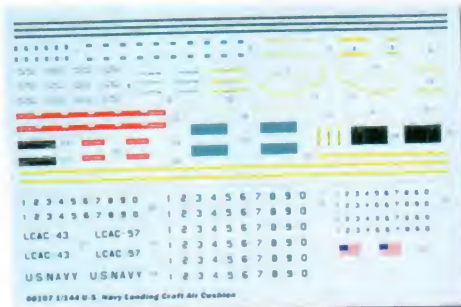
Two options are included for LCAC 43 and 57, thankfully Trumpeter have also included on the decal sheet a set of generic numbers, so any of the 90 LCAC's in service with the U.S. Navy can be modelled.

Having seen what Trumpeter are capable of when it comes to producing some very big models, I have to ask the question why didn't they release this in 1:72, as it still wouldn't have been

unmanageably large and would have been ideal to compliment the current crop of modern U.S. armour being produced in this scale. Trumpeter have been known to produce the same kits in more than one scale, and this will hopefully be the case with this one.

On the down side, I couldn't help but notice that the box top illustration shows the skirt deflated and the loading ramp in the lowered position, but unfortunately there is no provision for actually building the kit as pictured on the box. According to the instructions, this is due mainly to the fact that the vinyl skirt is only supplied in its inflated form.

If you fancy building something out of the ordinary, then I can recommend one of these LCAC's and because it has been produced in 1:144 it won't take up too much room as it has about the same size footprint as a 1:35 Tiger! ■





The German 'E' series of tank proposals were designed toward the end of World War II and (depending on what you read) were either close to production or just another German pipe dream. The E-25 was intended to replace the Jagdpanzer IV Lang and other Panzer III/IV based tank destroyers.

Much of the kit's design is based on the work of rough original war time drawings and the interpretations of both H. Doyle and Bruce Crosby, who had an influence in both of the 1:35 resin examples available from Accurate Armour and Cromwell.

GETTING STARTED

I started off the assembly process with the suspension. Basically there are three parts to this and

they don't fit particularly well. The only consolation is that they are completely hidden when the road wheels are in place. The one thing to watch out is that you attach the units themselves in the correct sequence. The longer stubs should go in positions one, three and five with the shorter stubs in positions two and four.

RUNNING GEAR

It was my intention from the start to build the complete track assemblies as separate items in order to make painting easier. In order to achieve this goal, I first press fitted the suspension units onto the hull and then glued the road wheels onto these units making sure of correct alignment. I wanted a more characteristic sag on the tracks and in order to achieve this I had to modify the

front idler supports. I did this by cutting the attachment stub off part B11 and then reattaching it 1mm further down the shank. Once dry I then press fitted the idlers and rear drive sprocket onto the hull.

The tracks were then cleaned up and assembled. The raised injection marks on each track were a little tiresome to clean up but it was well worth the effort. The plastic tracks are quite good, in that after clean up they simply click together. To assemble the tracks I found it best to make them into short lengths until I had completed both sets, and once this was completed I re-glued all the joints before putting to one side for a day or two. When completely dry I prised off the entire assembly from the hull (remembering that you have only press fitted the suspension units in place) leaving me with two

complete track assemblies which will be much easier to paint.

THE HULL

I next turned my attention to the hull. I was unhappy with either option given in the kit with regard to the hull top configuration. I wanted something reminiscent to the top of a Hetzer. I first measured the hull opening and cut a piece 20 thou plastic card to fit. I then added the crew openings as well as the curved periscope mounting. Various fixtures and fittings were removed from the original kit part and reattached to the new scratchbuilt roof plate. I wanted to add some weld-beads around this plate and also on the sides of the hull. For this I used weld-masks from the Archer surface detail set No.6. I used 'Klear' to attach these and once

PAPER PANZER

Luke Pitt uses some artistic licence while building Trumpeter's E-25.



The Author re-built the roof plate to resemble the type seen on the Hetzer. The new roof plate was made from 20thou plastic card. The various fixtures and fittings were taken from the original roof plate.



As the E-25 was a 'paper panzer' project the author could employ some artistic licence without fear of getting it wrong! In this case he decided to mount the exhaust system upside down, for a better look.



The hull was textured using Tamiya Surface Putty by stippling it on using an old paint brush. The kit's side plate attachment points were removed and new ones fashioned from 15 thou plastic strip, they were also fitted slightly lower, as the author felt the kit parts were mounted too high.



Etched brass mudguards are supplied in the Trumpeter kit, but the author felt these weren't as good as the plastic items. The plastic items just required a little thinning to achieve a scale thickness.

dry, coated them with Tamiya Surface Primer.

IR SIGHT

I wanted an infrared night vision device and thought I had one in my spares box. After a few days of searching I found I didn't so I put a 'plea for help' on Hyper Scale. The next day, to my relief, my request was answered by two very generous contributors by the names of Peter Hoskins and Stefan Muller-Herdmertens. I wanted the mount to be flexible, and not fixed to the line of the main gun. This is the really nice thing about 'paper projects', the complete freedom you have in attaching items like these. In the same manner I have attached a MG42 mount (or AA/Close support weapon) to the commander's side of the roof plate. I have tried to convey that

the mount could be moved both in a forward and rear position by the use of spring or butterfly clips on the lower and upper pivot points.

ENGINE DECK

I then moved to the rear deck and you will note I have chosen the second option provided in the kit (with the two large engine access doors). The engine vents are mounted on top of the doors and to add interest, I first glued the vents in place and then cut out the louvres leaving only the outside frame in place. I replaced the louvres with 10 thou plastic card in the open position. I was also unhappy with the thickness of the mesh screen provided in the kit, so I replaced them with the 0.75mm Extra Tech mesh set No. EXV35015. I cut this mesh to fit inside the frame. As the vent

The model is now complete, the author has broken the model down into sub assemblies to make the painting stage easier.



covers were more or less now see through, I boxed in the openings with plastic card, then sprayed the entire boxed-in sections in black.

EXHAUST

I didn't like the position of the exhaust muffler, so I deviated from the assembly sequence and mounted the pipes in the upside down position. The muffler position is now below the round engine access panel on the rear of the engine deck. I have added a rather

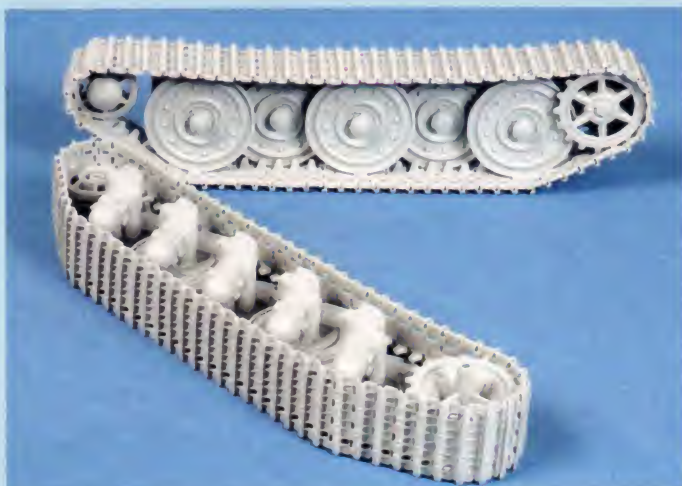
short flame dampener to the exhaust pipe (inspired by the ones on Late War Panzer IVs) to add a bit of visual interest.

MUDGUARDS

The last part of the build was to attach the front and rear mudguards. I was going to use the photo etch items provided in the kit but I found them to be unsatisfactory in both shape and fit compared to the plastic items provided. The plastic items are

not without their faults however as they are a little thick and need to be thinned on the inside face. I thinned the inside face by almost half using a flat file. I then dry fitted the guards to the hull only to find that there was a step from the bottom of the sponson. I solved this by adding a 15 thou strip to the bottom of the sponsons. During sanding I lost some of the side plate attachment detail, so I sanded these and the foliage loops off. To my eye, the side plates

were moulded on the high side and the foliage loops were a complete waste of time. Similarly I was also unhappy with the height of the front visor. To my eye it looked a little low and I didn't really like the design. I filled the gap in the front hull with 20 thou plastic card and added a visor of my own design. The entire hull was then coated with Tamiya surface putty in a stippling motion to try and replicate the rough rolled steel effect I was after. I then replaced



The author explains in the main text how he managed to assemble the tracks and running gear separately thanks to the way the suspension units can be temporarily press fitted into the hull sides.



The track assemblies have now been painted and have received some initial weathering in the form of rust washed on the track links and the polished metal finish on the guide horns.



This is the second paint scheme applied to the model, as the author had a few problems during this stage!

the previously removed side plate attachment points with ones made from 15 thou strip and made new foliage loops from stretched sprue, at which point the build was basically complete.

PAINTING

I had quite a few problems when painting this model. My first dilemma was to try and come up with a camouflage that was a little different and yet still in keeping with late war German schemes. My first attempt was a hard edge scheme consisting of a sand base with a contrasting splinter pattern of green and brown. I sprayed the first coat of sand on a very humid day with little or no surface

preparation. The result was a powdery finish with lots of little hairs (no doubt from my balding head) and grit from the sanding preparation. I pressed on foolishly and applied the hard edge scheme with the aid of Post It notes. The finish looked fine from about three feet away but, up close the hairs and grit really were unacceptable. I set about stripping the paint by soaking the model in Windex overnight before preparing the surface for a re-paint. I did the same scheme a second time and was quite happy with the results.

At this point a friend of mine dropped into my workshop and commented that he really liked what I was doing with "that War

Hammer Tank!"... I really didn't need this sort of comment at this stage of the painting process! But after due consideration and after looking at the model for well over a week, I came to the same conclusion. The model looked more like a science fiction piece than a "serious German 46" piece. This is a bit of a contradiction in terms as German 46 pieces are pure science fiction anyway. The model was stripped again and re-sprayed. But again little attention was paid to the surface preparation. As you can guess the surface of the model was chock full of dust and grit! Once more I stripped the model and re-sprayed with Tamiya Desert Yellow XF-59 mixed with

a little White XF-2 added to tone it down. The paint was thinned to 30% paint, 70% thinner, then sprayed with a coat of Tamiya XF-58 toned down with XF-59 for the camouflage colour. It's important at this stage to achieve a sharp contrast between the sand and the green camouflage colours but still maintain a feathered edge. The trick was to turn down the pressure on the airbrush to around 12 psi and thin the paint even more. Spray the line in an inward direction, doing this cuts down on overspray.

CAMOUFLAGE

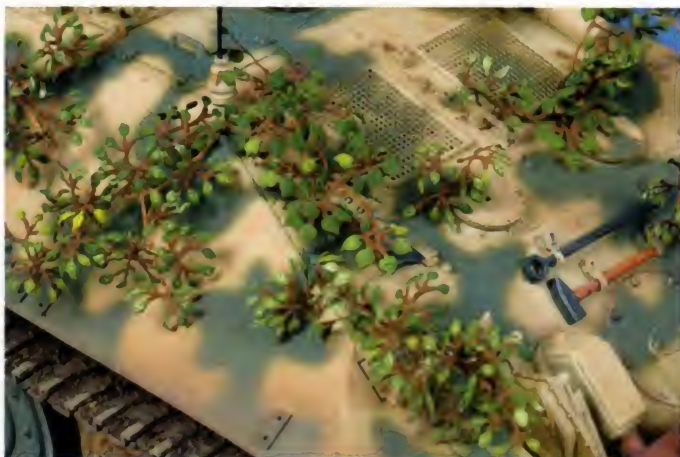
When this stage was complete, I mixed a wash of Black XF-1 and ►



The Tank Commander is from the Tank figure range (T35003). The head has been replaced with a Hornet item. Note the scratch built mounting for the MG42.



The Commander figure has been painted in a combination of oil paints for the flesh areas and acrylics for the uniform.



The foliage is from a company Kamizukuri, the plants have been laser cut from printed paper fret. Kamizukuri products are readily available from Hobby Link Japan (www.hlj.com).



The rusty finish on the exhaust muffer is best achieved using a combination Tamiya Surface Putty to replicate the rough texture, Vallejo acrylics and weathering pigments.

Red Brown XF-64 together in an equal mix thinned with 85% thinner and sprayed this along all the recesses. This is what you might call a 'post shading' technique and I generally like the results more than the pre-shading technique that is more common today. The track assembly was treated as a separate painting protect and was painted only once (thankfully).

FOLIAGE

The last step is the attachment of foliage. I had used an entire paper fret of "Kamizukuri 48th Generic" foliage on this model. This was obtained from the Tusca website and I was keen to try it as I was looking for something a little quicker than the Scale link material I generally use. Firstly the paper fret was prepared with a light coat of green. If you look closely at any tree you will notice that not all the leaves are the same colour. To

that end, I sprayed the entire fret green and picked out some leaves on the fret with a yellow/green mix and others with a brown green mix. The next step is painting the stems a brown or brown/grey, I used Vallejo Flat Earth 983. The foliage was then cut from the paper fret, the branches were shaped between my thumb and forefinger into a slightly rounded shape, and then attached them to some roots obtained from my garden.

The last step was to apply the foliage using PVA glue and touching up the ends of the leaves where they have come away from the paper fret. I tend to then pick out a few leaves with Vallejo Golden Olive and Olive green to give them a bit of contrast. The last thing to do was to give the entire model including the foliage a coat of matt varnish and for this I used Vallejo 520 mixed with distilled water.

THANKS

I would like to thank the following people in sharing their knowledge with me they are, Alex Dutt, Peter Hoskins and Stefan Muller-Herdemertens for their part help. I am also as always, very grateful to Brett Green for his time, help and coaching tips on photography. In fact all the photos taken in this article have been taken by him and I thank him and the other guys for their help.

CONCLUSION

The Trumpeter Entwicklungsfahrzeug E-25 is a pretty good kit. It's priced well and is a fun build. It is a nice alternative to more serious building. More often than not these days I find myself thinking when choosing a kit to build do I have enough reference? Do I need photo etch? Is the kit accurate? With this kit you don't need to concern yourself too much with any of that. There were a few valuable lessons learned on this build. The first and foremost is, no matter how many kits you have under your belt or how good you think you are, you will from time to time stuff up. The second is don't be fooled into thinking that surface preparation isn't the key to all good painting. The third is never give up on a model it can be saved! ■

Modelspec

Trumpeter E-25 Kit No.00383

Materials

Extra Tech mesh set EXV35015.
Kamizukuri 48th Generic" foliage
Archer surface detail set #6

Paints used

Tamiya;
XF-2 Flat White, XF-69 Nato Black, XF-1 Black,
XF-52 Flat Earth, XF-59 Desert Yellow, XF-9 Hull Red,
XF-58 Olive Green, XF-26 Deep Green.
Humbrol;
Metal Coat 27004 Gun metal, Grey Met 53,
Matt White 34, Wood Brown 62
Vallejo;
Silver 848, Matt Varnish 520, Golden Olive 857

Tools used

Waldron Sub-Miniature Punch and Die set
Cammatt Brass Assist roller set MK MC
Cammatt Hold and Fold.

- ☒ Good subject, well priced, fun build.
- ☒ Fit of some of the parts.

Available from

All good model shops Worldwide.

Rating ●●●●●●●○



THE AIR CAV

John "Tigger" Wilkes puts Dragon's 1:35 UH-1D Huey into a scene reminiscent of something from *Apocalypse Now*.

Over the last few years model companies have come and gone, one such name was Panda. They had a small range of mixed subjects and had planned to produce a long list of helicopters in 1:35 scale. One model they managed to release was the UH-1D. When the Editor asked me to build this new release from Dragon I immediately had my suspicions that this kit was in fact a reincarnation of the Panda kit. Looking at the model in comparison to my own example of the Panda model revealed that I was indeed correct. The reality was that they made the kit in a modular way which will allow alternative large cabin UH-1's to be kitted later on. (Rumour has it that it is

a scaled up copy of the 1:48 Italeri kit!) A sturdy box contains all of the light grey soft plastic sprues along with the clear parts and the addition of Dragon's helicopter crew. This boxing also contained two sheets of etched material. One is colour the other is plain brass. The colour sheet contains the instrument panels and harnesses where as the second set includes such things as wind screen wipers and small detail parts for the airframe. Lastly this package is completed with a small decal sheet with options for 6 birds. Namely; 1x 121st AHC Vietnam 1969. 1x 118th AHC Vietnam 1968. 1x 21 World Records Paris 1962. 1x 175th Aviation Co Vietnam 1967. 1x 114th AHC Vietnam 1967. and 1x 116th AHC Vietnam 1971. ▶







The author found the crew figures didn't fit very well in the seats. The legs were cut with a razor saw, then pinned to get an acceptable fit. The resultant gaps were filled with Magic Sculpt.



The etched brass pre-painted seat belts were difficult to fit, but look very good once in place.



Dragon have thoughtfully included one of Eduard's excellent pre-painted etched brass sets, which contains this beautifully detailed instrument panel.



The author felt that the cabin bulkhead, quilted liners needed to be toned down and this was done using Gunze Mr. Thinned Filler and aluminium kitchen foil.



The cabin roof windows were painted using Gunze Sanyo's Clear Green acrylic.



To prevent unsightly stress marks whilst removing clear parts from the sprue, the author first heats the blade to slice through the plastic without having to apply undue pressure.



From this picture it is blatantly obvious there are a couple of fit issues with the engine cowling!



The first stage of filling these unsightly gaps is to brush on Formula 560 white glue. The excess is then carefully wiped away.



The next stage involved applying several layers of Mr. Surfacer 500. Again the excess is removed, but this time using a cotton bud soaked in alcohol.

ON WITH THE BUILD

With most aircraft we begin with the cockpit and here it is no exception. I was going to use the supplied figures so I had to make adjustments to them to make them fit as I went along. The cockpit is made from several colour etched parts (From Eduard) overlaid in the appropriate place attached with a spot of super glue. Being honest I had previously used these pre-painted photo etched parts and had some of the paint peel off, however I didn't have a problem this time. Cockpit instrument panels are always a focal point and here Eduard have given the modeller the easiest way of achieving a good result. Simply sandwich the two parts together with a light coat of Formula 560 white glue and then when dry, run some super glue around the edges to give a stronger bond, the instrument glass faces were then glazed with a drop of Johnson's Klear. Various small details were added from thin

fuse wire, Tamiya tape and copper wire. The crew seats were a little chunky but with a figure in place and once installed and inside of the model this was hardly noticeable.

CREWMEN

With the figures I found that they didn't actually fit in their seats so I took a razor saw and performed a little plastic surgery. The resulting parts were then pinned with paper clips and re-attached with super glue, any resulting gaps were filled and re-sculpted with Magic Sculpt. With the pilot and co-pilot seated I now had to add the straps and this became a real pain, very careful bending of the coloured etched parts is called for. After anchoring the attachment point I threaded the belts over the shoulders and over the hips to the buckles and once in place a drop of super glue secured them. The figures were then painted at this stage to avoid any handling problems later on.

INTERIOR DETAILING

The rear of the cabin area was next and looking at the quilted material on the walls for sound proofing (although with the doors open it is a little redundant!) I was not a happy modeller. The effect cast into the plastic was way too heavy so I chose to cover the lot with

aluminium kitchen foil attached with Gunze Mr. Thinned Filler. Once dry a gentle rub with the finger revealed the quilting but offered a much more in scale appearance. Various methods of attachment are used for these in real life but I chose to make it look like it was held in place with stud poppers.



The blades supplied in the kit are too thick in cord along their trailing edge. This was easily removed by drawing a scribe several times. The new trailing edge was then cleaned-up using various sanding pads.

This was achieved with a small beading tool being pressed at equal spacing around the edge before being given a small spot of silver paint.

SEATING

For this model I chose to have just the seats in the rear gunner's positions and leave the cabin as empty as possible to give the impression of having just dropped off their passengers.

As a sideline I wanted to also keep the weight of the model as light as possible. At this stage the fuselage needed the attachment of some of the glazing from inside. I realised that the overhead panels were a green shade and to replicate this I airbrushed Clear Green from Gunze Sangyo's range of excellent acrylics. I found that I could later give them a few coats of Klear to impart a clearer look. The glazing was attached with Formula 560 white glue. A little tip I have found with clear parts is to remove them from the sprue with a heated knife blade as close to the attachment gate as possible. Then remove any excess plastic with sanding pads this avoids stress fractures.

ON THE GAPS!

With the fuselage assembled I was shocked by the sheer size and the amount of gaps between many of the parts! Although this is a little disheartening to see on a modern kit and some work will be needed to overcome them, it is easily accomplished with the right materials. Firstly I filled the gap with white glue and wiped away the excess. When dry, Gunze Sangyo Mr. Surfacer 500 was liberally brushed over and into the gaps. Several coats are needed but when dry a cotton bud with some alcohol can be used to simply wipe away the excess and neatly fill the gap. The added advantage of using this method is that it saves the surrounding surface detail from being obliterated by lots of sanding. With all of the gaps filled I moved onto the landing gear. This model, as stated, was going to be posed in flight and the only way to mount it was through one of the undercarriage legs. I decided upon the angle of pose and replaced one of the cross arms with suitable sized brass tubing. I then cut a steel pin which was slid into the tube and this will eventually fit into another section of brass tube embedded in the base.

ROTORS

The kit comes with the broad cord main rotors and these need to be adapted. In essence they ▶



After masking off the interior and glazed sections, the model was given an initial coat of Gunze H304 Olive Drab.



The anti-glare nose panel and horizontal stabilizers were masked off and then sprayed with Vallejo acrylics. The top surfaces of the stabilizers were often painted in bright colours to make the aircraft visible from above when operating low over the jungle canopy.



To start the weathering process the model was first glossed with Johnson's Klear before adding the decals, followed by a second coat of Klear to protect them. This was followed by lining all of the panels in Payne's Grey oil paint.



Tensocrom Active Surface Agents, Set No.1 was used to add various streaks in stains, to impart a worn and weathered appearance. The Tensocrom range are available from www.airbrushes.com and www.cammett.websds.net in the UK.



To achieve the heavy wear on the leading edges of the rotor blades, they were first airbrushed in Alclad Aluminium, followed by Vallejo Yellow for the tips and black for the rest of the blades. Once dry the leading edges were gently rubbed with a sanding pad to reveal a realistic worn edge.



The Helicopter was mounted onto the base by remaking the forward skid support from brass tube. A second section of brass tube was embedded into the base, finally a steel pin was inserted into the 'skid tube' to securely fix the 'Huey' in place.



The basic groundwork was built up from expanded polystyrene covered with a layer Celluclay mixed with PVA glue, fine sand, grit and Woodland Scenic's Earth Undercoat.



The author wanted to try Celluclay for the groundwork. In Europe this product is called Papydur.



The three U.S. Air Cavalry Troops came from Dragon's U.S. 1st Cavalry set (3312). The figures were built from the box, the only additions being slings for the weapons and an aerial for the radio.



The Ox came from Andrea Miniatures available from Historex Agents. The Vietnamese civilian figures are a mixture of Dragon, Verlinden and Andrea products.



The door gunner is keeping a wary eye out as his Huey 'Slick' vacates the Landing Zone (LZ). For reference photos on detailing the XM-23 door gun mount, check out page the full size reference section on page 50.



are too thick in cord along the section of trailing edge extension. This is easily removed with a few passes of a panel scribe until the unwanted section can be removed. The resulting blade is then cleaned up with sanding pads. Most of the rotor head is too heavily detailed and the link arms needed replacing with suitable sized rod. I also took the liberty of inducing an angle on the blades and these required lots of fiddling with the links and mechanisms of the rotor. Any rotor blade flying around at high speed will ultimately start to flex and bend up at its tip. I replicated this fact by gently bending the blade up at the end until it stayed where I wanted it. Heavy weathering of the blades was achieved by first spraying with Alclad Basic Aluminium, next up was a coat of yellow for the tip then black for the rest of the blades. Once it had all dried a gentle rub with a sanding pad gave the effect that I was after.

Looking at the instructions will reveal that Dragon have only given the modeller one of each type of door gun mounting! As I wanted to display the type as shown in the box art I stole a second mounting

from a spare set of Helicopter crew I had in my own collection. The other alternative is to either use the bungee from the roof of the cabin type or scratch build another identical mounting. It would have been nice to have had the option in the kit.

PAINTING

I always like this part as it starts the process of bringing life to the model. After the obligatory masking with the indispensable Tamiya masking tape I began with a cheap brand of car primer sprayed straight from the can. This revealed any flaws which were rectified and another primer coat was then applied. The first colour was Gunze H 304 Olive Drab thinned with alcohol and sprayed at a low pressure in a light misting until I had achieved the finish I was after. After some more masking a coat of black was applied for the anti glare panel on the top of the nose. Finally the next major colour to apply was to the engine exhaust area. I chose to try out some subtle shading with Alclad II Metallic paints. I gave a base colour of Aluminium then several

different shades of Burnt Metal and Jet Engine Exhaust. That was most of the model painted and the process of weathering could now begin in earnest!

WEATHERING

Over the years I have seen a number of methods used and one which has stood the test of time for me has been the wash of oils. I gave the model a coat of Johnson's Klear then the decals were applied and sealed with more Klear. A wash of Payne's Grey oil was applied to the whole model. I prefer grey as this is more akin to the natural shadow which we are trying to replicate. I have seen some modellers use browns which look awful and inappropriate on aircraft. Anyway this wash is made so as it runs into all of the recessed detail and around the rivets. Once the model is done it is left to dry out for about an hour. Removing the excess was achieved with a soft kitchen towel carefully wiped over the whole model, in tight corners I simply use a paint brush to do the same job. The effect is subtle and can be varied with darker shades if that is the effect required. As oils take

some time to really dry this is a good time to get on with the figures for the diorama or something else, just as long as you leave the model alone for a couple of days to give the oils plenty of time to dry fully.

MATT COAT

A coat of Andrea Flat Varnish seals the first stage and we can then move onto the next. Here I chose to try the Tensocrom range of weathering liquids. In reality they are very thin washes of acrylic paint which if used right can produce a good rain streak effect. I found that keeping the edge of the area being worked on wet was essential as if it was left to dry out then a hard edge appeared which didn't look right. Some final exhaust staining was achieved on the upper surfaces of the tail boom with very thin Tamiya Smoke. The tail aerial was made from a cut down acupuncture needle and the wire antenna was made from invisible mending thread. I then used some Mig Pigments to dust the model and it was put aside for the diorama to be built around it.

THE DIORAMA

I have seen several Vietnam diorama's over the years and never actually seen many with civilians. I found several suitable civilian figures from both Verlinden and Dragon as well as an ox from Andrea which I thought I could use and then started the planning. I chose to use a picture frame with the glass removed for the base; onto this I applied a few layers of expanded polystyrene insulation. This was attached with PVA and once dry I sculpted the raised walkway. In the middle I located the point where the helicopter's mounting pin would go and hot glued a block of MDF in place. This had a sleeve of brass mounted in the middle and this was then back filled with plaster. I have never used Celluclay before but wanted to try it out. I found that in Europe the same material is

under a different brand name of Papydur. After some searching I found a supplier and ordered a batch. Ironically at about this time Richard Windrow released his DVD on making dioramas and he mentions mixing the Celluclay with some PVA and Woodland Scenic Earth colour. With a batch of this mixture I spread it thinly over the surface of the diorama and left to dry out. What they don't tell you is that it shrinks dramatically and I had to apply several batches of the mix a few days later to fill in the gaps and cracks. One more thin layer was applied and whilst it was still wet I added several sizes of model railway ballast, cat-litter rocks and some sand and fine gravel. After leaving this lot to set fully I painted the base with the same Woodland Scenic's Earth tone. The paddy field was a real long process but not too

different to the real thing. I had to drill a series of holes in rows then take a hair from a household paint brush and insert them one at a time. Each hole received about 15 to 20 strands, then a small spot of superglue fixed the rice shoots in place. At this time I had a friend cast an eye over the diorama so far and he came up with a good idea, why not have raised wooden walkways to fill some of the dead space? I duly constructed a walkway from thin strips of bass wood. To make it look tatty I broke the wood instead of cutting it to get the jagged edges I wanted and with this fixed in place I then had the task of creating the water.

MAKING WAVES

I started with Woodland Scenic's Still Water which was evenly spread over the field area and once dry I used clear bath sealing

silicone to make the ripples in the surface. I have done several water dioramas in the past and have always been happy with the effect that this technique creates. However this time I needed to simulate the concentric rings of the rotor downwash and for this I used the back of a teaspoon to sculpt the wet silicone until I was happy with the shape. Although the clear silicone is good it doesn't quite have the glossy look of ►



water I wanted so several coats of Johnson's Klear with some Hudson and Allen Snow mixed in was brushed over the entire area.

VEGETATION

Initially, I was going to use a mix of aquarium plastic plants which I was going to cut down and paint, but ended up using some fern like moss which worked really well. This was attached over the top of some hanging basket synthetic liner which when pulled apart look like heavy undergrowth (see Last Post Techniques on page 66). The vegetation was attached over a layer of Woodland Scenic's Scenic-Cement. This very thin white glue was also sprayed over the top before I painted the bushes with Vallejo Model Air paints. Finishing off the embankment was fairly simple, as all I did was to apply a couple of coats of Mig Pigments mixed into a paste, when it dried out I added some darker shades around the bushes. With the base complete I needed to set the figures. I will not give a blow by blow account of my painting methods but suffice to say I use Vallejo Acrylics throughout. Very few modifications were needed

to alter the figures but where necessary Magic Sculpt came to the rescue. As I mentioned I used a mix of Verlinden, Dragon and Andrea miniatures to populate the diorama. Very little was done to alter them but where necessary arms were changed, heads were turned hands were re-sculpted. The military figures are almost straight from the box with added slings for the weapons and an aerial for the radio made from an acupuncture needle bent to shape. Where appropriate the name and unit badges were applied as colour copies of the real badges printed onto thin paper and then attached with white glue.

HAPPY ACCIDENTS!

At about this stage I found that I had a stress fracture in one of the clear panels in the right hand side cabin door. I wasn't too impressed with the fact that I believe this was caused by excess stress created by the fit of the parts being so poor. One thing I have always believed in is destiny and in this case I found a way to disguise the problem with some light scratching of the areas with a pin to make the impression of a laminated screen which has

been shattered. In the middle of each of the spiders web pattern I drilled a small hole which gave the appearance of having been shot at. I believe this was meant to be and turned out to be a happy accident; it actually breaks up the monotony of the side doors.

CONCLUSIONS

I am glad to see that the models from Panda were incorporated into someone else's kit listings but in reality Dragon have done themselves no favours. With some of the Gen 2 figures and kits now coming from their factory, this one falls far short of the bench mark they have set themselves in other areas. The addition of the Eduard etched is welcome but this does not detract from the poor fit of parts and the heavy detail elsewhere. The decals were not too bad but when looking at pictures of the real aircraft the painting of the female and tiger on the nose could be a lot better. I would find it hard to recommend this kit to anyone but the die hard UH-1 fanatic who really wants one in their collection and even then he or she would have to be fairly experienced in order to get the most from it. ■

Modelspec

Dragon 1:35 UH-1D Huey 'Slick'

Kit No. 3538

Materials

Dragon 1:35 Viet Cong 3304

Dragon 1:35 U.S. 1st Cavalry 3312

Andrea Miniatures 1:32 S2A2 Ox

Verlinden 1:35 Vietnamese Civilians 298

Paints used

Gunze Sangyo

H 304 Olive Drab, H12 Black

Tamiya

X-19 Smoke

Model Air

045 US Grey Light, 059 Matt varnish, 063 Silver

Winsor and Newton Artist Oils

Paynes Grey

Alclad 2

Aluminium, Jet Exhaust, Burnished Exhaust

Mig Pigments

P029 Brick Dust, P033 Dark Mud, P024 Light Rust

Formula 560 white glue

Mr Decal softener from Gunze Sangyo

References

Kageroo Topshots 35 IH-10 - ISBN 978-83-60445-47-1

Squadron UH-1 in action - ISBN 978-0897471794

Monografie Lotnicze 108

Bell UH-1 Iroquois Huey - ISBN 978-83-7237-182-9

- ✓ Great subject, the inclusion of Eduard's pre-painted etched brass details.
- ✗ Heavy moulding, poor fit of many of the parts. Only parts to make up one door gun mounting.

Available from

All good model shops Worldwide.

Rating ●●●●●○○○○

This low and wide angled shot has helped really capture the action portrayed in the scene.



THIS HUNTER NEEDS A PASTING



Darren Thompson takes a peek at Dragon's Smart Kit Early Jagdpanther and asks the question, "Where's the zimmerit?"

Keeping up with Dragon's tradition of getting as much mileage from their sprues as possible, we are now treated to a brand new Early Production Jagdpanther, utilising the excellent lower hull and running gear from the recent Panther G models.

As previously reviewed, Dragon's new Panther G hull, suspension and roadwheels are superb. Into the tub style lower hull are fitted the individual torsion bars and suspension arms, which are moulded in one piece, allowing the suspension to be articulated, should you desire. The rubber-tyred roadwheels, idler wheels and drive sprockets are all very nicely rendered with all the correct bolt and rim detail, although no casting numbers, texture or tyre logos are depicted. Individual track links are also included, these 'Magic Tracks' aren't workable, but are a vast improvement over standard rubber-band style tracks and again show some very fine detail,



particularly the open guide teeth. It should be pointed out that all the links are the same, not left and right-handed, as they should be. The large radiator housings are also supplied for inside the hull and once finished should look more than adequate, just visible below the air intake grilles.

The upper hull is all-new and an impressive single moulding takes centre stage, with the glacis plate, engine deck, side walls and front fenders all moulded as one piece. The roof plate, gun housing, rear compartment door and all engine deck fittings are separate items, allowing for better definition, greater displaying options and, more importantly, to allow Dragon to release other versions later on. The interlocking plate and weld seams are as good as you'll get out of the box and whilst there is no surface texture as such on the hull, there is a fine cast appearance to the early gun mount collar. Just visible on the front glacis is a faint line, showing where the larger, late collar will fit, further proof if any were needed, that more Dragon Jagdpanthers will follow.

As far as detail goes, both the loader's and commander's hatches are beautifully produced, with separate periscope and binocular sight. The close combat mortar can be shown fitted, or the hole plugged, as you prefer and as mentioned before, the rear superstructure door can be displayed open or closed. The pioneer tools and jack are well

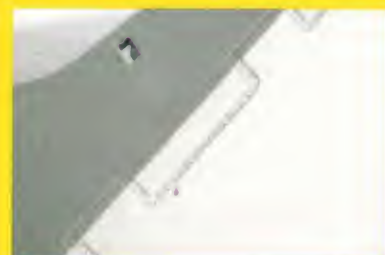
done, the latter being a multi-part assembly, but due to this being a 'Smart Kit', the tool clamps are moulded in situ, with the only etch supplied being for the various engine deck grilles.

The gun barrel is a one-piece plastic affair, with the large, early muzzle brake having a separate inner ring and end plate, which will have some reaching for an aftermarket turned one, but it should look fine once painted up.

Decals are included for two vehicles, both serving with Pz.Jg. Abt.654, in France 1944, vehicle 314 from 3. Company, sporting a three-tone scheme and an unspecified plain dark-yellow vehicle from 2. Company.

For those of you who know your Jagdpanthers, you'll know that to depict this early vehicle accurately, you will have to apply a coat of zimmerit, which begs the question, why didn't Dragon release this kit with the appropriate zimmerit finish moulded on? We know they can do it, as they have so expertly shown with their previous King Tigers. I can only guess that they wish to appeal to those of us who like to apply our own finishes and also, to get more mileage from the moulds, so those less keen will have to wait for a later issue, with zimmerit supplied.

This is an excellent new kit from Dragon, you'll just have to decide whether to buy it now and do your own zimmerit, or wait a while and hope Dragon do it for you! Highly Recommended. ■





RECYCLED RUSSIAN

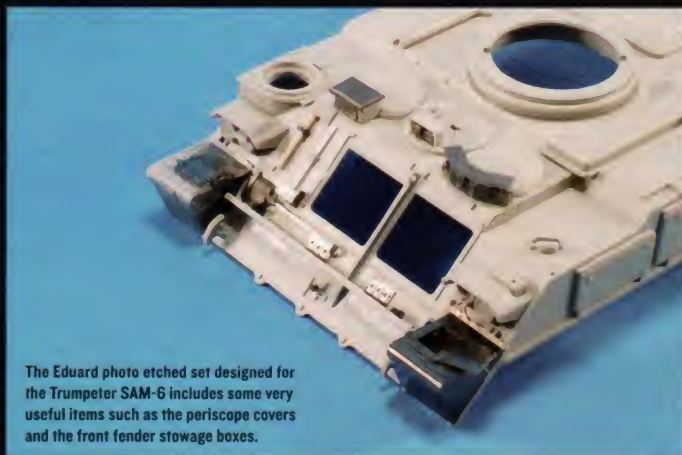
José Brito converts Trumpeter's tracked SAM-6 vehicle to be used against its former owners.

Mujahideen is a term for Muslims fighting in a war or involved in a struggle. Mujahid and it's plural, Mujahideen, came from the same Arabic root as 'Jihad' or struggle. We started to hear about the Mujahideen during the 80's with the Soviet involvement in the Afghan war or later known as 'The Soviet Vietnam'.

CONSTRUCTION

My idea with this project was to show the ability of the Mujahideen and the guerrilla in general, to transform unwanted or obsolete war material into useful war machines with new uses or combat capacity.

The ability of the Mujahideen to adapt material is well known and there are some pictures that



The Eduard photo etched set designed for the Trumpeter SAM-6 includes some very useful items such as the periscope covers and the front fender stowage boxes.

represent that. For instance there is a classic picture of a Mil Mi 8 helicopter fuselage which has been grafted onto a truck chassis and turned into some form of motorhome, come bus!

The SAM-6 from Trumpeter is a fine kit. Presented with great box art that once opened you are greeted by a number of quality grey plastic sprues, a small photo-etch fret, 'link and length' tracks and a set of decals.

Besides the quality of the kit parts, I decided to use a photo-etch fret from Eduard. This set offers some worth while improvements over some of the plastic parts contained within the kit,

As usual the construction begins with the lower hull and running gear. There is no problem with the track construction and the fit is top quality.

Once the rear panel is in place and the lower hull done, it is time to start work on the upper hull. Once again there are no problems with construction thanks to the clear instructions provided by Trumpeter and the quality of the mouldings, which means the parts fitted together very well.

RECOILLESS RIFLE

Now is the time to start making some changes. My idea is to use the Chinese 105mm type 75 recoilless rifle over a wood and metal base which has been constructed to cover the opening for the original launcher mounting.

The rifle is also from Trumpeter and is a fine model, which includes not only the rifle, but three figures, ammunition and boxes along with some personal weapons for the crew. This time I only used the rifle and the other parts I will put in the spares box and save for future projects.

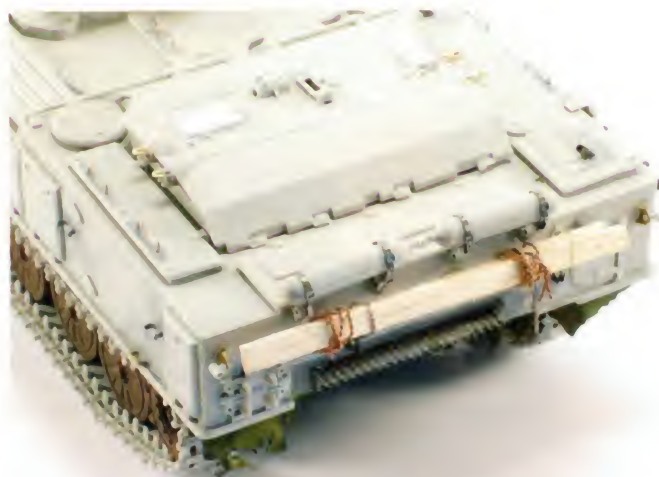
To make the mounting for the rifle, I made a framework from Evergreen 'I' beam profiles, onto which I glued strips of wood normally used in naval modelling. The wooden strips are cut into slightly different widths and lengths to produce a more natural look.

At the rear of the vehicle I used a small piece of balsa wood and some twisted fuse wire to represent ropes. The mud guards were made of foil and the grab handles from thin copper wire. These were bent and distorted on purpose to represent damage from constant use and abuse.

To add more interest and balance to the model I decided to apply some form of rudimentary armoured shield to the rifle. I used some plastic card for the actual shield and some Evergreen plastic rod for the bracing.

PAINTING

To start the painting process I first gave the model an all over primer coat of Tamiya XF-68 NATO Brown before carefully spraying on thin coats of Tamiya XF-59 Desert Yellow, to gradually build up the colour. This allows the NATO ►



Just visible are the rear mud flaps which have been re-made in lead foil and suitably damaged to help give the vehicle that used and abused look.



The makeshift recoilless rifle mounting has been made from Evergreen plastic card 'I' beams and thin strips of wood used for model ship building.



The author had high praise for the link and length tracks supplied in the Trumpeter kit. In his words "the fit was top quality".



The Chinese manufactured 105mm recoilless is also produced by Trumpeter but unfortunately no longer seems to be available. Note the scratchbuilt plastic card and rod shield.



A box lid was painted-up to look suitably Russian to help show the vehicles origin and where the Mujahideen managed to steal and capture their supplies and ammunition from.



The entire model was given a solid undercoat of Tamiya NATO Brown XF-68.



Tamiya Desert Yellow XF-59 was carefully sprayed on in several thin coats, allowing the NATO Brown to burn through in the recessed areas, along edges and around raised details.



The planks of wood making up the platform for the recoilless rifle were painted in several different Vallejo colours, to show the wood has been scrounged from various sources as well as adding some visual interest.



To start adding all the scuffs and scratch the author first painted them using a very light buff colour. Note the single green painted wheel, which helps break up the monotone sand finish, it also tells the story of how parts from other vehicles have been used to keep this one running.



Once the all the light buff scratches had been added, a combination of Vallejo's Medium Grey and Camo Black/Brown was then painted inside each of the light scratches to give a 3D effect.

◀ Brown to show through to act as a shadow to the Dark Yellow, which gives some depth and interest to the monotone Yellow.

The rifle was put to one side as this is going to be painted separately because I wanted to use a different colour. The wood parts supporting the rifle were painted in several colours to represent their different origins. For this I used mainly Vallejo acrylics. These like the Tamiya acrylics are also top quality paints and were used diluted to retain the surface detail. The highlights and shadows were achieved by adding white or black to the base colour respectively.

At the same time I decided to apply the scratches and any other surface damage. I wanted to represent a well used vehicle. A vehicle that was abandoned or captured from the Soviets, and has been exposed to the elements. Afghanistan is a rugged country of unforgiving terrain with big mountains and vast temperature

changes.

With this in mind I decided to give a tri-dimensional look to the scratches. To achieve this I used a combination of colours, namely Vallejo 987 Medium Grey and Vallejo 822 SS Camo Black Brown. The 822 being used for the deepest scratches. This technique improves the final look and gives a more realistic finish.

The rifle was airbrushed all over with Tamiya XF-67 NATO Green and the front shield in a darker green from the Vallejo range.

Several small details were painted with Vallejo acrylics and the model is now ready for the weathering and finishing.

WEATHERING AND FINISHING

The final stages of the painting started with a wash of Winsor & Newton Oil Colour 35 Raw Umber. A diluted wash was applied over the entire model, paying special attention to the recessed parts. For the rust streaks, I used Winsor

& Newton Oil Colour 2 Burnt Sienna, applied in vertical lines and small dots.

For the dust and dry mud I used several earth tones from Mig Productions pigments. Dry or diluted with water, they were applied mainly to the running gear and lower hull. Once dry, the excess was removed with a flat brush.

The Mig Pigments are great for this job and give a very realistic look to the model.

Now it's time to put the model away to fully dry and start on the base.

THE BASE

I like to build bases with elevation. Even in a simple scene, subtle contours makes for a more dramatic and interesting look.

The base is a wooden square with balsa wood forming the sides. The interior is filled with Styrofoam available from florist stores. This adds strength but is also

lightweight.

The wood parts were painted in black and the top of the base was covered with Aquaplast from Robbialac. Aquaplast is a pre-made filler used in DIY and home improvements and is water based. It dries fast, is easy to use and is a good base for the application of Vallejo Piedra Pómez. This is a paste of pumice stone and acrylic resin for making rough textures. It dries to a really rough and hard finish, perfect for simulating rough dusty terrain.

For the vegetation I used synthetic grass used in model railways, I applied a few small dots at a time with the help of white glue. It's a boring process but necessary for a realistic natural look.

The tree is a dried root and the stone is one I picked up from outside in the street (I always keep my eyes open when out and about for materials which maybe ideal for my next diorama project.) ▶



The base is formed from a wooden plinth and balsa wood sides. Balsa wood is a very soft wood making it easy to cut and work with. PVA white glue has been used to stick it all together.



The base was then filled with Oasis foam, which is available from florist's shops. The advantage of this product is that it is cheap to buy, light weight and easy to carve.



The groundwork was added using Aquaplast wall filler. This type of product is ideal for forming the basis for the terrain. The filler can be stippled whilst wet with a stiff brush to simulate earth and rocky ground.



The dried out root works perfectly for the dead tree. The rock is simply a small stone the author found out in the street.



The Mujahideen figure came from the ICM Soviet - Afghan War 1979-1988 set. The donkey came from the Dragon Fallschirmjäger with Donkey set (6077).



The donkey has now been loaded down with pack and an old MG42. Fixing it to an old clothes peg makes handling easier during painting.

Once everything was completely dry, the unpainted grass still looked a bit unrealistic so the groundwork receives a coat of Tamiya XF-68 NATO Brown as a primer followed by a coat of Tamiya XF-59 Desert Yellow. This was in turn followed by a wash of Winsor & Newton Oil Colour 35 Raw Umber. Once dry, I applied a dry-brushed mix of Tamiya XF-59 Desert Yellow with Tamiya XF-2 Flat White. The grass received a diluted coat of Tamiya XF-57 Buff to tone down the artificial green look. With the base done, it's time for the figure and the donkey.

FIGURE AND DONKEY

In all my models I place at least one figure. The human factor adds scale and interest to a scene as well as a historical and geographical reference.

The figure I used in this diorama came from the ICM box, Soviet - Afghan War, 1979 - 1988, Mujahideen, 20th Century Local Conflicts. It's a set with four figures with good detail and natural poses. I decided to only use one of them. The arms came from the spare parts box. The figure is in a standing pose and fits nicely into the overall scene. For the painting I used, as usual, oils for the flesh

and acrylics for the clothes, accessories, and other small parts. Once dry I airbrushed a diluted coat of Tamiya XF-57 Buff onto the trousers, shoes and back to give a dusty and dirty appearance.

The donkey came from a Dragon box, German Fallschirmjäger with Donkeys. The set has two soldiers and two donkeys.

To the back of the donkey I glued all kinds of gear, bags, a gun, rucksack and straps made of foil. The entire donkey was airbrushed with a coat of Tamiya XF-2 Flat White as a primer and then a coat of Tamiya XF-24 Dark Grey in the upper parts to give a two tone look.

All the smaller parts and details were painted with Vallejo acrylics. Once completely dry, I airbrushed the donkey with a diluted coat of Tamiya XF-57 Buff to also give it a dusty look.

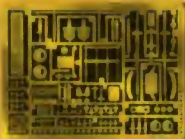
COMPOSITION

Now it's time to put all the elements together. Besides adding some elevation to my scenes I also like to display the elements based around an invisible diagonal line. This diagonal display gives the diorama a more random and ►



The Afghan fighter was base coated using acrylics and the flesh areas were painted in oils.

The donkey was first airbrushed flat white, followed by Tamiya Dark Grey to the upper parts. Detail painting was completed using Vallejo acrylics before a final dusting with Tamiya Buff.



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For Italeri kit.
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1:35 Scale

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◀ natural appearance adding interest and a certain dynamic to the scene. The elements have all been placed in close proximity to each other. This way you don't end up with any dead space. The slightly sloping angle of the base allows the top of the vehicle to be viewed more easily but also gives a more accurate representation of the rough Afghan terrain.

Once everything is in place and has been allowed to dry fully the entire scene is airbrushed with a coat of Revell 31702 Matt Varnish.

CONCLUSION

This project was one of the most imaginative I've done. It was a pleasure to do and the final scene is in my opinion very original

and a welcome change to a lot of other dioramas that I have seen. We have a war machine in the background, but still need a donkey for the simple tasks! There's also the human factor to add scale to the scene.

Normally I build World War Two models and this modern subject was a breath of fresh air. ■



In this shot we can see how effective the scuffs and scratches look. Note the subtle rust streaks and staining running down from some of the scuffs and scratches, this has been achieved using thinned oil paints. See the Last Post Techniques in issue 15, July 2007 for a full explanation of this effect.

The donkey got bored during the photo shoot for this article so nipped outside for a breath of fresh air!



Modelspec

AFGHAN SAM-6 LAUNCHER VEHICLE

Sets used

- 1:35 Trumpeter, Russia SAM-6 Anti-aircraft Missile (00361)
- 1:35 Trumpeter, Chinese 105mm type 75 recoilless rifle (02303)
- 1:35 ICM, Soviet - Afghan War, 1979 - 1988, Mujahideen, 20th Century Local Conflicts (35221)
- 1:35 Dragon, German Fallschirmjäger with donkeys (6077)
- 1:35 Eduard photo-etch SAM-6 AA Missile (35058)

Paints used

Vallejo acrylics

822 SS Camo Black Brown, 987 Medium Grey, 951 White, 950 Black, 889 US Olive Drab, 893 US Dark Green, 830 German Field Grey WWII, 873 US Field Drab, 985 Hull Red, 871 Leather Brown, 965 Prussian Blue, 957 Flat Red, 878 Old Gold, 058 Matt Varnish, Piedra Pómez

Tamiya acrylics

XF-59 Desert Yellow, XF-1 Flat Black, XF-2 Flat White, XF-68 NATO Brown, XF-67 NATO Green, XF-59 Desert Yellow, XF-57 Buff, XF-24 Dark Grey

Pigments

MIG P027 Light Dust

MIG P029 Brick Dust

Oil colours

Winsor & Newton Oil Colour 35 Raw Umber

Winsor & Newton Oil Colour 2 Burnt Sienna

Aquaplast - Robbialac

- ✓ Good overall quality, fit of the parts and detail.
- ✗ Over scaled missiles (I did not use them).

Available from

Trumpeter - All good model shops Worldwide
 ICM - Distributed in the UK by Creative Models
 Dragon - All good model shops Worldwide
 Eduard - LSA Models

DIDDY DORA

Jeff Adams gets his hands on a more practical sized railway gun...

The Dora 80cm Super Heavy Railway Gun was developed to smash the Maginot Line on the border between Germany and France, unfortunately it was still being assembled when the German Army simply went around these fortifications. Just about everything about the Dora is impressive, it was the largest gun ever built, although it only had an operational career of just 13 days, in which only 48 shells were fired in anger. Two types of shell were available to the Dora, a high explosive shell with a range of 29 miles and would leave a crater 90 ft across and 30 ft deep, the other was a concrete piercing round with a range of 23 miles and was capable of penetrating over 7 metres of reinforced concrete. It took 25 train loads of equipment, 2000 men and up to six weeks to assemble. There was even talk of mounting the 80cm gun on a tracked, self propelled chassis for street fighting, the mind boggles!

This new kit from Fujimi is in 1:144 scale and even for such a small scale, builds into an impressive kit. The kit itself is moulded in dark grey plastic and consists of no less than 445 parts. The parts are nicely moulded although some sink marks are

evident, these will not be visible on the finished model. The glossy instruction booklet has 16 pages with the construction broken down into 51 parts. Construction begins with the railway wagons the Dora was mounted on, of which there are four as the Dora was so large it was mounted on two parallel railway tracks. In this stage there are no less than 80 wheels to clean up so have fun! Next stage is the gun mount itself which even in this scale is a fair old size although the ladders and handrails look a little overscale to me. Next up is the mounts combining the railway wagons and now you start to get an idea of the size of the real thing, these wagons would benefit from careful painting to bring out the detail. You next construct the gun itself which is nearly 30cm long and again would benefit from careful painting. Next add the two mounting platforms and your Dora now starts to take shape.

Next up is the construction of the gun platform, adding various sub levels, ladders and handrails. Then adding the gun loading apparatus including the plunger mounted on a wheeled truck, followed by the build up of the ammo lifting hoist. There are two chain blocks attached to these gantries but there are no chains

supporting them so you will have to add these details, otherwise they have no visible means of support. You also get two main rounds and propelling charges both mounted on small trucks and again even in this small scale their size is impressive. To finish off your Dora, you get two sections of track to mount it on. One painting option is included in the kit which is overall Panzer Grey and is shown in the instructions by way of four way colour profiles of a finished kit. However no mention is made of what colours the smaller parts should be, such as the main rounds. Overall this is a nice kit by Fujimi and my one criticism of the handrail size should be tempered by the fact that if the plastic was scale thickness it would have been very fragile and the only alternative would be etched brass which would no doubt increase the cost. So if you want a Dora in your collection and as an alternative to the massive offering by Soar Art Engineering in 1:35 scale, then this is the kit for you and you could always put one of Dragon's 1:144 scale armour kits next to it to show how big the real thing actually was. ■

To fully grasp the size of this Super Heavy Rail Gun, we have placed the barrel and breach assembly next to a Tiger I of the same scale. Even in 1:144 the barrel is around 30cm's in length. Please note the hand is 1:1 scale!



Here we can see the size of the track bed section included in the kit compared to a standard CD.



The size of one of the projectiles is clear to see here when placed next to a Dragon pre-built 1:144 Tiger I!

Thank you to Model Wholesale UK for supplying the review sample.
www.modelwholesaleuk.com



Figures

- A round-up of the latest figure sets on release...



ADALBERTUS

**1:7 E/506TH PIR CAPTAIN, HOLLAND 1944
ITEM NO. 250-01**

This 250mm bust displays an incredible likeness to the Actor Damian Lewis who played the part of Captain Richard D. Winters in the TV series, A Band of Brothers. Superbly cast in light grey resin, this bust is a real figure painter's dream. From the fine mesh covering the M1 combat helmet to the 'baggy' look of the paratrooper's jacket so distinctive of airborne uniforms. All in all a mightily impressive piece of sculpting that's just crying out to be painted. Wholeheartedly recommended.

Available from www.adalbertus.com.pl

10/10 - The Editor

DRAGON

**1:35 GERMAN FIELD HOWITZER GUN CREW PREMIUM EDITION
ITEM NO. 6461**

As we have come to expect from Dragon – Another box bulging at the seams! For this set of five field gun crewmembers, Dragon have included no less than 9 sprues! Bizarrely some 31 arms are included, yes you read right 31! Seven of which are moulded in the softer DS100 plastic so there is a little flexibility in their final positioning. All but one of the figures has three different arm pose options. Along with all these extra arms are the usual sprues containing items of personal equipment as well as a nice selection of projectiles and cartridge cases. Also moulded in soft beige vinyl are four wicker cases for the projectiles along with four propellant charge bags and a couple of wicker ground mats.

The figures are all beautifully detailed and thankfully don't display any of that 'crazy-paving' effect on the backs of the torsos that some of the sets tend to suffer from. For the detail, the optional poses and the number of extra parts, I have to award this set top marks.

Available from all good model shops.

10/10 - The Editor



TORO MODEL

1:35 RESIN FIGURES

From Toro Models this month we have received three nice Polish figures from WWII, this makes a pleasant change from the usual German and American soldiers that we normally get. The first is titled Warsaw's uprising and featured an MG42 gunner of the Home Army. The second depicts an Officer of the 1st Polish Army wearing a great coat and armed with the classic PPsh sub-machine gun, during the battle for Kolberg. The third is of an infantryman running armed with a Degtyarev machine gun during the battle for Berlin. All have been nicely cast in light grey resin and realistically sculpted. I particularly liked the spoon sticking out of the boot top of the infantryman! Superb figures of subjects a little different from the norm.

WARSAW'S UPRISING POLISH HOME ARMY 1944 MG GUNNER ITEM NO. 35F07

KOLBERG 1945 1ST ARMY OF POLISH FORCES INFANTRY OFFICER WITH PPSh ITEM NO. 35F12

BERLIN 1945 1ST OF POLISH FORCES INFANTRYMAN WITH DEGTYAREV MACHINE GUN ITEM NO. 35F17

Available from www.adalbertus.com.pl

9/10 - The Editor



TANK

1:35 RESIN FIGURES

This month we have received three sets of German tank crewmen, which can be combined or used on their own. All are fairly morbid as they are depicting crewmen in the process of bailing out or have been cut down whilst attempting to escape. I am personally not a great lover of displaying dead bodies on my dioramas, also most of the 'dead figures' available look too stiff, if you can excuse the pun? However Tank have done an admirer job of making them look realistic. The sculpting and detail is first class and this can be seen to good effect thanks to the dark blue/grey resin Tank use to cast their figures in. Again, as with the other sets we have received this month, this set has loads of diorama potential. I suppose it would make a change to have a Russian tank passing a knocked out German one instead of it being typically the other way around on most dioramas.

Highly recommended.



ESCAPING GERMAN TANK CREW FOR PZ.III/IV SUMMER 1941-44 ITEM NO. T35090

ESCAPING GERMAN TANK CREW FOR PZ.III/IV SUMMER 1941-44 ITEM NO. T35091

ESCAPING GERMAN TANK CREW FOR PZ.IV SUMMER 1941-44 ITEM NO. T35092

Available from www.afvmodeller.com

9.5/10 - The Editor

DRAGON

1:35 8th ARMY INFANTRY EL ALAMEIN 1942 ITEM NO. 6390

A welcome change to the ever expanding range of German figure sets from Dragon, are these four British 8th Army infantrymen. The set consists of a Second Lieutenant armed with his trusty Webley .45 service revolver, a Sergeant armed with the 'gangster' version of the famous Thompson machine gun fitted with the drum magazine, and the last two figures make up a Bren gun team. Of interest is the photo of the built up Bren Gunner on the back of the box which shows the magazine fitted facing backwards on the gun!

Unlike the equivalent German set, this box isn't bursting at the seams with spares, basically the only extra item is a Sten gun.

The detail is first class, the creases in the uniforms and the boot detail is excellent, something often overlooked in the not too distant past.

A great set that will be the perfect accompaniment for the Dragon Sherman III or even the new Academy M3 Grant. Highly recommended, 10 out of 10 for the quality of what you get but I wish us Allied modellers got as spoilt with the same amount of extra parts as the German modellers have gotten used to.

Available from all good model shops.

10/10 - The Editor





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Figures

- A round-up of the latest figure sets on release...



DRAGON

1:35 GEN 2

PANZERGRENADIER ITALY 1943-45

ITEM NO. 6348

And if to reiterate my comments on the review of the British 8th Army set, we have this set of Gen 2 'German' Panzergrenadiers which consists of 10 sprues and an etched brass fret all for just four figures, OK I know they are a Gen 2 set and therefore a lot more parts are used to make up each figure, approximately 20 in fact. As with all of the Gen 2 sets from Dragon the level of detail is up there with the best of the resin figures, though because of the complexity of the parts break down for each figure some fit issues can rear their head.

All four figures are in relaxed poses and are designed to be used together as they are all focused on something happening in the distance. The heads are moulded with separate faces, which works fine for the helmeted figures with their chin straps, but as these figures are only wearing field caps, some careful alignment will be needed to get the best possible join. Even so I think some filling will be inevitable. All in all another superb set from Dragon, which will no doubt be well received by fans of German armour. Taking into account that soldiers from this campaign, dressed in 'tropical style uniforms' are a bit thin on the ground!

Available from all good model shops.

9.5/10 - The Editor



ZVEZDA

1:35 GERMAN STURMPIONIERS 1940-1943

ITEM NO. 3613

Being surrounded with the latest sets of Dragon figures as I write these reviews, I couldn't help wanting to compare this Zvezda set buried amongst them that my eye kept getting drawn to.

Well the box illustration is great and most certainly grabs your attention, the problem is when you turn the box over the assembled and painted figures on the back look terrible. But thankfully when I opened the box I was pleasantly surprised with the detail and quality of these figures, the poses are well animated, the heads offer sharp detail and the faces are all individual. The detail throughout the parts is very good indeed and not too far from some of the latest sets coming from the likes of Dragon at the moment, albeit their approach and style is a little different. One thing I thought was a little odd is that the box top shows three of the Pioneers being armed with Kar 98's but only one rifle is actually included? I'm sure some of the numerous spare weapons in any of the Dragon German figure sets will be able to supplement the short fall here. However a nice selection of demolition charges are included along with the unwieldy looking flame thrower trailer, that I must say has got to be the short straw of weapons to have to drag into battle!

With some careful painting these figures will really be brought to life and I think will offer some great diorama potential. Highly recommended.

Available from all good model shops

8/10 - The Editor



Book Reviews

Military Harley-Davidson



Pat Ware



MILITARY HARLEY DAVIDSON

IAN ALLAN PUBLISHING

ISBN 978 0 7110 3191 3

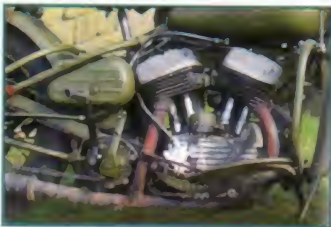
PAT WARE

Anyone with even the smallest interest or knowledge of motorcycles will be aware of the name Harley Davidson. Anyone who attends military vehicle rallies will never fail to see (and hear!) many examples of the near-iconic WLA version model of motorcycle from this famous manufacturer.

This latest book dedicated to the part Harley Davidson (HD) played in US military history, takes us through two World wars as well as the intervening period. The author could not resist touching upon non-military examples (and rightly so as many were subsequently exploited for military service) as well as providing a very useful history of the HD company itself. The history of military HD motorcycles is then brought up to date with the purchase of Armstrong motorcycles in the late 80s. This hard backed book is made up of 190 pages featuring over 180 colour and B/W photos to help describe the motorcycle's history. This publication will be of interest to motorcycle enthusiasts, military historians, preservationists and modellers alike. Highly recommended.

Available from www.ianallanpublishing.com

Keith Goldsworthy



Panzerkampfwagen I

Geschichte - Technik - Varianten - Sonderfahrzeuge

History - Technology - Variants - Specialised Vehicles



PANZERKAMPFWAGEN I

TANKOGRAD WEHRMACHT SPECIAL NO. 4009

MARKUS ZÖLNER

This latest title in the Tankograd Wehrmacht series concentrates on the Panzer I and it's variants. Printed in softback, A4 size and running to a total of 64 pages.

The opening chapter consists of 8 pages of text, in both German and English, giving a brief account of the role played by the Panzer I during wartime, followed by an even briefer summary of each of the variants covered within the photo section.

The photo sections are what this book is really about, clearly printed, good quality photos, many of which were new to me. A total of 118 period photos of the tank in it's various guises, from Ausf A and B gun tanks and Befehlspanzer I, through the various turretless training, maintenance and ammunition supply versions, to the famously distinctive Bison I and Panzerjäger I. This section then moves onto the lesser-known Brückenleger, Ladungsleger and Breda armed version, used by the Spanish Condor legion, although these are less well covered.

All in all, an interesting selection of pictures and a good basic introduction to the ubiquitous little Panzer I.

Recommended.

Available from www.bookworldws.com

Darren Thompson.



HISTORY FILE 003.

PANZER IV, SHORT-BARREL VERSIONS

THOMAS ANDERSON, AURIGA PUBLISHING INTERNATIONAL

Following the same landscape format as the two previous volumes in this series, Auriga Publishing bring us the third volume concentrating on the Short-barrelled versions of the panzer IV.

After less than half a page of introduction follows a total of 92 period photographs, mostly shown two per page, but with a few full-page exceptions. All photos are captioned, with the text picking out any details of interest that the viewer may not be aware of, otherwise the text is kept fairly light, meandering it's way through the book, appearing on some pages but not on others. The text briefly touches on all the major theatres, through the 'Blitzkrieg' campaigns, North African, the Balkans and finally Barbarossa, however, it is only the most basic of outlines.

A single centre-spread contains five colour profiles of the Panzer IV and three smaller ones showing some ammunition colouring and markings.

Overall the quality of the photos is fairly good, some are a little grainy, as in previous volumes, but for the most part they are clear and detailed, just what the modeller needs.

If you are looking for a detailed historical and operational study of the Panzer IV, then there are better books available, but if you like your pictures to do the talking, then this should fit the bill.

Available from www.bookworldws.com

Darren Thompson.



STAGHOUND TAKE-TWO

Keith Goldsworthy checks out Italeri's version of the purposeful looking Staghound.

Italeri's model of the Staghound follows closely on the heels of Bronco's recent release of the same vehicle. The Staghound was an all-American design, built by Ford under the designation of the T17E1. The US Army favoured the M8 Greyhound as its armoured car solution and so the Staghounds, as they became known, were offered to the British and its other Allies under the Lend-Lease scheme. The vehicle continued to see extensive post-war service lasting until the 1980's. This review is, in the main, of the Italeri kit but some comparisons with the Bronco kit are provided.

As has become a feature of recent Italeri kits the model comes supplied with a colourful booklet

containing reference material including several photographs of the vehicle in use, both during WW2 and post war. Stowage diagrams are provided as well as several photographs of the interior and exterior of the car. This is a very useful addition to the kit.

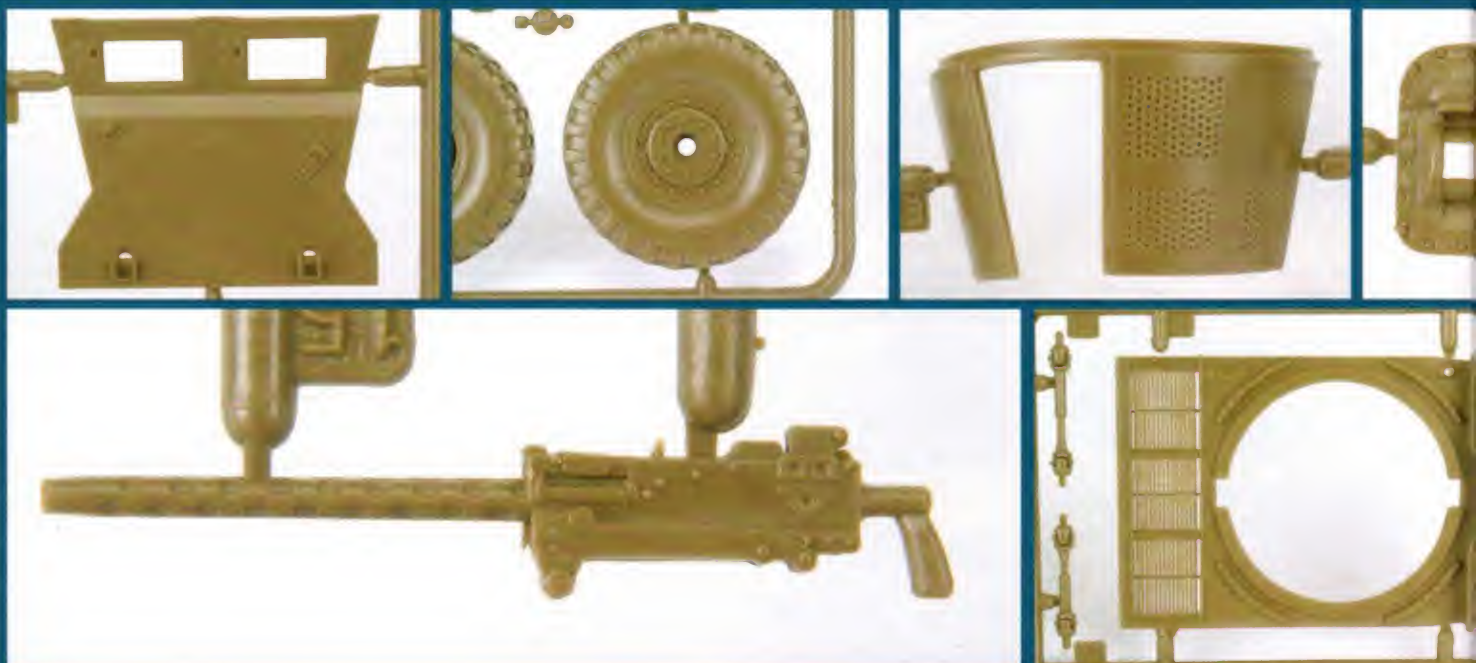
There are 202 green plastic parts in the box (compared with 295 parts in the Bronco kit). These are supplemented by a 37-part etch set, a metal barrel, decals and a length of cotton to replicate the towing cable. The plastic parts appear to be a little soft and this is noticeable on some of the smaller items such as the .30 cal gun barrels.

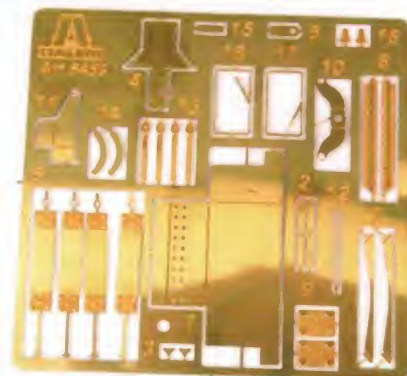
The first obvious difference between the Italeri and Bronco kits is the provision of a 3-sided

tub for the lower hull, to which the lower rear and front plates and the three separate top plates are added. Engine compartment doors are supplied as separate items but no engine or engine bay detail is provided (perhaps an aftermarket engine will be made available someday). Hull side doors are also provided separately and are detailed on the inner face. There are weld seams on the hull which are finely done. The underside of the hull also features well with the correct placement of access plates, etc. The one thing that lets the hull down is the three relatively large sprue attachments along the upper edge. A nice feature on the Bronco hull is the toothed turret ring. This is missing on the Italeri kit. However

once the turret is in place this would be difficult to see anyway. Attachments for the fuel drums are provided from a mixture of plastic and etch parts and the detail is excellent. Numerous other hull parts are provided including various tank tools complete with etch tool straps to hold the tools in place. This is a particularly nice touch and saves having to remove any moulded-on straps from the tools as is often the case. Headlamp guards are also provided in etch with a jig provided to shape correctly.

The suspension is a little simplified compared to the Bronco kit but once built still gives a good representation of the real thing. The detail in the drive shafts and axles is very well done. The large





wheels are well cast in two halves with locating pins on the inner faces to aid with correct alignment of the tread pattern. The front and rear wheels are different so care should be taken with their placement. The only detail missing on each tyre is an air valve which could be easily added.

For me the significant improvement over the Bronco kit is the turret surface texture which is far better represented on the Italian kit (being non-existent on the Bronco kit). For the purists out there I would recommend careful comparison with reference photos when building an actual vehicle as there are differences in turret contours around the commander's hatch. The Italeri turret is slightly narrower and longer than the

Bronco turret. I have not been able to determine which is the most accurate but the Bronco kit does have that more robust and chunkier appearance to it that typifies the Staghound. However these differences are very minor and do not detract from the Italeri kit. The periscopes mountings on the Italeri kit are fixed in a forward position. The Bronco kits allow the periscopes to be placed in any direction (this partly explains the increased number of parts in the Bronco kit). Another feature of the Italeri kit is the provision of different casting numbers as separate parts. However to utilise the different numbers means cutting a square from the turret roof, fitting the new numbers (cast onto a corresponding plastic

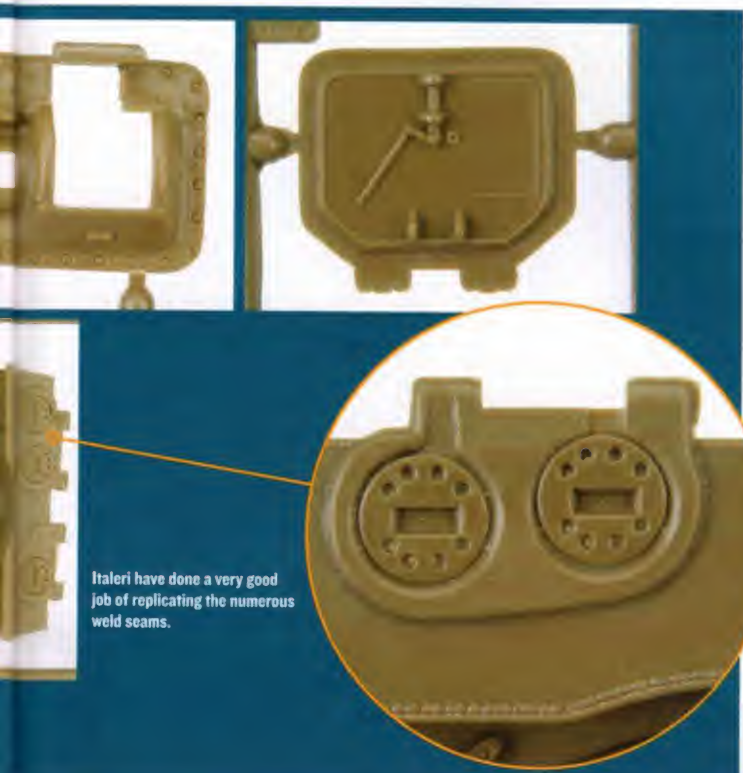
square) and blending into the turret roof. Although I appreciate what Italeri are trying to achieve, there are some alternative ways this could be done (providing some etch numbers for instance). A big plus for Italeri is their decision to include a turret basket with some interior details. This does help fill a big space should the hatches be left open. A No.19 radio set is also included although the inclusion of an US aerial mount means sourcing some British style aerial mounts.

Full breach detail is provided to occupy the interior of the turret. This utilises some of the photo-etch. Plastic and metal gun barrels are provided but the reality is that an alternative barrel will be required as the barrel is depicted as a straight tube and not tapered

as on the real thing. This is a major oversight by Italeri. Fortunately several aftermarket 37mm gun barrels are available.

Some stowage items are provided such as fuel cans and canvases to complete the vehicle. Decals allow five different Staghounds to be depicted including two from the post-war era.

In conclusion this is a well detailed kit with some very fine weld seams and surface texture. The 37mm barrel will need replacing and some British aerial mounts will be required. This is not a major task. The presence of some interior detail is welcomed and could be enhanced further by the modeller. ■



As mentioned in the review, the author preferred the cast texture incorporated on the Italeri turret (below), but felt the Bronco turret (left) had the edge on overall dimensional accuracy.





Letters

WRITE TO: MMI Letters, ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill, Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX, UK
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 The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.
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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

NOTES FOR SUBSCRIBERS

Please be aware that recently we have been experiencing problems with items sent via surface mail.

The Royal Mail state that surface mail can take up to 10 weeks to arrive and although you may receive the magazines quickly some months if you suddenly don't receive an issue it will be 10 weeks before we can send a replacement.

We would recommend to all customers to subscribe via airmail as the magazine only takes a week to arrive. We understand that the airmail subscription is more expensive but over the course of the year this equates to 2 magazines.

We are happy to accept subscriptions and back orders on our secure website www.modelmilitary.com, by post or fax using the forms in the magazine, or you can call us by telephone.

Please make sure when sending your orders you state which magazine and issues you require or which issue you wish your sub to start from or if it is a renewal. Enclose your full name and full postal address, if paying by credit card please supply the valid credit card number, expiry date, issue number, valid from date and CVV number (last 3 digits on back of signature strip). Please also make sure you supply a telephone number or email address so we can contact you quickly to sort out any queries.

If you have any queries please contact us direct at enquiries@adhpublishing.com

See you again on May 1st!

Spud

John 'Spud' Murphy

RECOMMENDED READING

WALK AROUND M4 SHERMAN

JIM MESKO

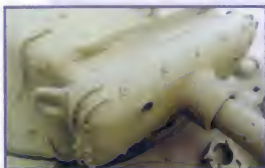
SQUADRON SIGNAL PUBLICATIONS.
 ISBN 0-89747-410-4

I know last month I recommended a book on Israeli armour as I was trying to get the motivation to build some of the IDF kits I have on my work bench. Well I'm sorry to say I got side tracked and have built a 1:48 M4A1 and am now half way through a 1:35 M4A3E8. Thanks in no small part to this Squadron



Signal Walk Around and the Ampersand publication: The Modellers Guide to the Sherman, which is unfortunately no longer in print, so there is no real point in recommending it. Thankfully the Walk Around book is, and has proved invaluable for superdetailing both the Tamiya and Dragon Shermans.

The 80 page softback offers an excellent selection of both colour and black and white photos featuring everything from the different wheel and suspension types, to the various styles of hulls and turrets. Toward the rear of the book there is a handy section featuring a nice selection of interior shots of a beautifully restored 76mm armed M4A1 as well as some photos of the various engines used to power the M4's.



NEXT GENERATION

Thanks for a great magazine, I thought I would jot down a few lines about how helpful and inspiring the features and reviews are to a basic modeller like myself. I have just recently discovered these new fangled airbrushes and acrylic paints such as Vallejo etc! I have been making models on and off since the age of eight or nine, starting with Airfix, then going on to Revell, Tamiya etc. (How I wish you could get the old Airfix 1:32 tanks and soft skins again). My four year old son Stephen usually helps me when I am making a kit, he knows the difference between tracks, wheel, and drive sprockets, as my son keeps saying 'You cant make them all by yourself Daddy'. He loves helping me which I think is better than sitting in front of a computer or TV don't you?

Finally I just want to say thanks to my cousin Bill Mitchell for all his help and advice over the years.

Best Wishes
David Craig

Ed says; I am glad we have been able to help and it's good to hear your son is taking an active interest in your modelling, I'm afraid to say that modelling is dying out with children in general these days with so many other distractions such as computer games and the internet. Thankfully what we are seeing of late is a resurgence in the "born again" modeller who tend to be in their 30's or 40's and have got back into modelling from giving the hobby up in their youth. This is exactly what happened to me after discovering girls and motocross, both of which have proved costly hobbies and sports!

Anyway it's good to know you have sown the seeds of interest in your sons mind and long may modelling be a source of relaxation and fun for him as it is for yourself.



RANDOM REFERENCE!

WELDS AND TEXTURES

With the recent release of Tamiya's excellent JS-2 I thought it would be appropriate to include a picture of this IS-152. This is a fine example of the roughness of the weld seams, the sand cast texture of the mantlet and the touch cuts to remove the casting plugs.

Photo by Andrew Willis





References - Bell UH-1 Huey



▲ This UH-1H prepares to lift a load. Note the soldier is 'vacating' the area as quickly as possible after attaching the sling to the belly mounted cargo hook

To tie in with John Wilkes's article on building the Dragon 1:35 'Huey' we have a selection of photos for those wanting to add that little extra detail to their model.

This UH-1H is on display at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford, Cambridgeshire, home to one of the finest aircraft collections, both civil, military in the World, along with a superb collection of armour, make Duxford an excellent day out. ■

For more info check out www.duxford.iwm.org.uk

AMERICAN CHOPPER



▲ A door gunner lets loose with his pintle mounted M60-D machine gun into a Viet Cong position, March 1966. This aircraft is a 'D' model, distinguishable by the lack a pitot tube fitted above the windscreen.

▼ Members of the 101st Airborne Division jump from this UH-1D during a sweep just south of the DMZ in October 1969



► All though this is obviously a staged photo it offers some useful reference showing not only the large crest painted on the Huey's nose but also the characteristic red dust covering the M113 ACAV. Note also the blacked out star on the side of the hull.



References - Bell UH-1 Huey



▼ The M134 mini-gun fitted to this RAAF 'Huey' is undergoing some field maintenance by an Armour from the 9th Helicopter Squadron.



▲ Of interest in this photo taken of an Australian 'Huey' being re-armed is the twin M60 mount fitted to the right hand door gunner's station. These twin mounted M60's were often nicknamed 'Smokers'



▲ The flown Royal Australian Air Force flew the most heavily armed 'D' models during the Vietnam War. The U.S. Army used the earlier 'B' and 'C' for their Gunships. This 'Huey' operated from Nuy Dat in Southern Vietnam during July 1970.



▲ The Crew Chief of the UH-1 is performing routine servicing to the rotor head of this 162nd Aviation Company aircraft operating from Can Tho, Vietnam in 1969. Note the bright red and blue anodized aluminium couplings used on all the hydraulic pipework.



▲ The Gunner from this 9th Squadron RAAF 'Huey' removes the muzzle mounted safety cover from the XM-156 mounted mini-gun. This particular aircraft isn't carrying the XM-158 seven shot 2.75 inch rocket cluster usually hung from this mounting.



▲ This 'Huey' is fitted with an M2 .50 cal machine gun and a bank of high-intensity C-123 aircraft landing lights. These helicopters were code named Firo Flies and were used for night time target detection.



◀ These small holes in the ends of the horizontal stabilizers are designed to allow any moisture build up to escape, thus preventing corrosion.



◀ Port fuselage showing the tracks for the cabin doors to slide back on. Of interest here is how subtle the rivet detail is to the point of almost being none existent.

▶ Starboard side of the fuselage showing the bump stops for the cabin doors and the fuel filler cap. The rectangular hole in the centre is one of the 'kick in' steps used to gain access to the roof and rotor. The spring loaded cover has probably been robbed before the Helicopter was handed over to the IWM Duxford.





References - Bell UH-1 Huey



▲ Cabin roof detail, although this is a later 'H' model, it still offers a clear view of the green tinted roof windows, even if they are a little dusty! The main difference between the 'D' and 'H' was an up-rated engine and the addition of roof mounted pitot tube (fitted with red cover).



▲ This XM-23 mount became the standard door mountings for the M60-D 7.62mm machine gun fitted to most, if not for all 'Slick' Hueys operating in Vietnam. The ammo box had a capacity 550 rounds of 7.62 ammunition, which in theory gave the gun a minute of continuous firing.



▲ Just visible in this photo is the up-swept exhaust tail pipe and the air deflector panel, which formed part of the Infrared suppression system. Over 1000 of these kits were purchased by the U.S. Army to combat the threat from the shoulder launched SA-7 'Strella' missile launchers that the North Vietnamese had acquired towards the end of the war.



▲ The forward end of the land skids incorporate



◀ Detail shot of the rotor head assembly. Note in the Vietnam era photos, the rotor head is painted in a silver colour and the rubber gaiter toward the bottom of the main shaft is a red/ brown colour. Compare the real thing with the same view of the kit assembly.



▼ Underside view of the rotor head assembly showing plenty of reference for anyone wanting to superdetail the Dragon Huey's rotor head.



Close-up of the tail rotor mounting and pitch control linkage. Note the 'whip' antenna for the FM radio. ▶



help the crew to enter the cockpit.



References - Bell UH-1 Huey



▲ Close-up of the sound proofing, quilted liner fitted to the cabin bulkheads. These liners were often removed in combat to save weight and when the aircraft generally flew with the doors open or removed all together, there wasn't a great deal of need for them!

◀ The canvas passenger seating on this aircraft is olive drab, where on the war time photo at the top of page 51, these are bright red. Note also the bright silvery white colour of the seat belts.



▲ The pilot's and co-pilots instrument panel.



Incoming



PLUS MODEL 1:35 GAZ 61-73 4x4 ITEM NO. 239

181 of these GAZ 4x4's were produced in 1941 to be used as staff cars for senior officers of the Red Army. The kit consists of 34 beautifully cast cream resin parts, two clear resin head light lenses, a small etched brass fret containing the number plate and window framing. There is also a length of copper wire to make up the exhaust pipe and a couple of small sheets of clear acetate for the glazing. Two decal options are included, one for a vehicle painted in dark green and the other for Marshal Koniev which is finished in high gloss black. The instructions are pretty good, definitely better than some included in resin kits I have seen over the years and they are certainly good enough to build the kit from without needing to obtain extra reference. Distributed through Creative Models in the UK

9/10 - The Editor



REVELL

1:76 M19 TANK TRANSPORTER ITEM NO. 03226

This M19 is another of the old Matchbox kits which has been re-boxed by Revell

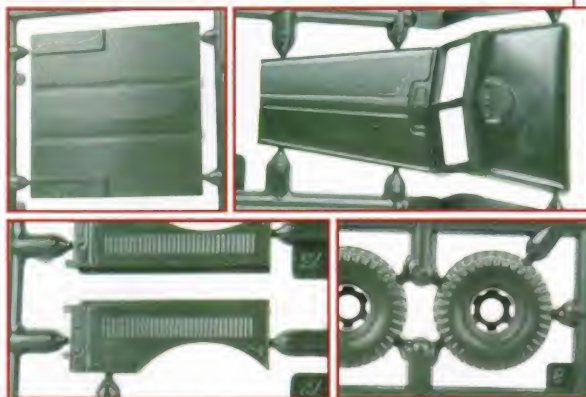
The model has been broken down into three sprues. The first contains all of the major components for the tractor unit and trailer. The second has all of the smaller fixtures and fittings and the third holds all the wheels, leaf springs and the small base so characteristic of the old Matchbox kits used to display the model on.

The kit is moulded in a 'soapy' looking medium green plastic, which I think is starting to show its age. Many of the parts have rather heavy mould lines and some of the larger flat parts suffer from sink marks. Anyone wanting to build this kit will have to source their own glazing, as none is supplied in the kit.

Having said this I still think it is a great subject and with a little work can look absolutely stunning, it will certainly be an easier task than the 1:35 version I built back in issue 6. Four decal options are included, and these are for a U.S. Vehicle serving in North West Europe, a British vehicle from the North African campaign, as well as one from the Israeli 7th Armoured Brigade and the Bundeswehr from 1956. Even in 1:76 this is an impressive looking model when built and a perfect way of display some of the excellent 1:76 armour from the likes of Milicast or the new, re-boxed Airfix MMP kits.

Available from all good model shops

7.5/10 - The Editor



TRAKMASTER

INDIVIDUAL TRACK LINK ASSEMBLY TOOL

The Trakmaster has been designed to make assembling Friulmodel white metal track sets quicker. The Trakmaster consists of a set of hard nylon based plastic 'jaws', a couple of elastic bands, a felt strip and a set of written instructions. To assemble the tracks it is simply a case of opening the jaws to first attach the felt strip which will help stop the links from sliding about when clamped. Then fill the lower jaw with the metal links and once this has been done the upper jaw can be closed and clamped down securely using the elastic bands. The links can now be joined together as usual with the wire supplied in the track sets or with brass wire as recommended in the Trakmaster instructions. Once each link has been pinned the length of track can be removed before adding a drop of cyano to the end of each link to secure the wire before final trimming.

The Trakmaster certainly made light work of the Challenger 1 tracks I assembled, and was far quicker than my usual method of making up a short run by sticking them to a piece of double sided tape. If you are a lover of Friulmodel tracks, then the Trakmaster tool will be a most worthwhile investment.

Available from www.hornethobbies.com

9/10 - The Editor





ITALERI

1:72ND PZ.KPFW. VI TIGER AUSF.E ITEM NO 7505

Italeri have a large wargaming range and have recently included some easy build wargaming kits such as the JS-2, ISU-152 and ISU-122, each one contains two easy build kits in this case the Tiger 1 Ausf E. Each Tiger comprises of only ten parts, four pieces for the hull, a three piece turret, two sets of wheels complete with tracks and double exhaust guards. The kit is nicely detailed, bearing in mind it's just for the wargamer, the only criticism is, that there is a mould seam running around the turret. The instructions are written on the back of the box and no marking options are included, just a list of recommended colours to use which is not too helpful if you are a novice. Overall these are nice little kits for the wargamer though I feel Italeri could have included some markings and paint schemes and perhaps marketed them at the beginner but what do I know?

8/10 as Wargaming Kits - Jeff Adams



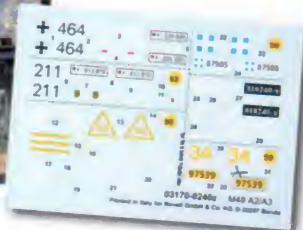
LEGEND PRODUCTIONS

1:35 T34-76 UPDATE SET FOR REVELL/ZVEZDA ITEM NO. LF 1155

This neat little set contains two square fuel boxes for the rear hull, three hull side fuel cylinders, spare tracks and grousers, packs, lights, tow cables and a saw all in resin. An etch sheet provides you with details for the engine deck and fuel drum fittings and as a bonus the instruction sheet has two colour maps and three colour Russian propaganda posters.

The development of the T34 is a complex matter and references should be sought as to which fuel drums should be used and for what period. However, if Russian armour is your thing then this update set will be for you.

Available from www.friendshipmodels.com
8/10 - Graeme Carruthers



REVELL

1:72 M48 A2GA2, A2, A2C AND A5 ITEM NO. 03170

The box contains all the parts to build pretty much every variant of this ubiquitous tank and all the parts are crisply moulded in an olive drab coloured plastic. A quick look at the detail incorporated into the complex engine deck will be testament to the quality of the tooling used to produce this kit.

Three different barrels are supplied including two 105mm L68's, one with and one without the thermal shroud, and lastly the original 90mm gun with the 'T' shaped muzzle brake.

Three styles of cupola are included, the standard US M1 cupola without the M305 riser vision ring, a Israeli Urdan cupola and the German pattern as fitted to the GA2.

Parts are included on the sprues to make the diesel engined M48A3 if you so choose, as the extra return rollers are included (the A2 has three and the A3 has five per side) along with fender mounted air cleaner boxes.

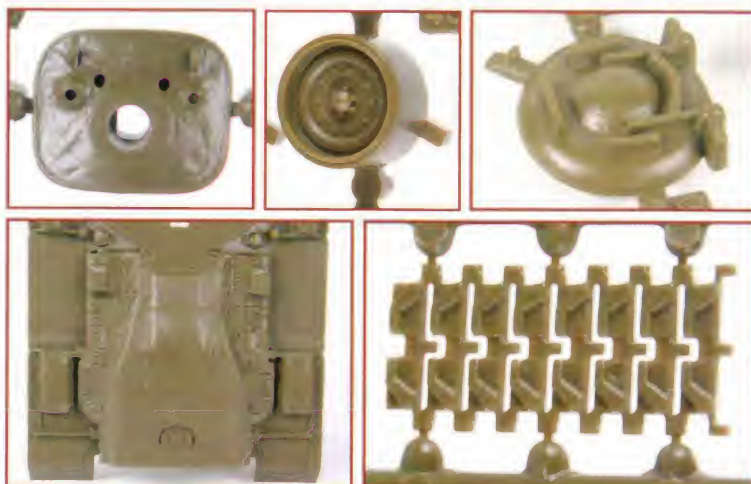
The only down side of this otherwise excellent model is the fact that the road wheels on each suspension arm are moulded as a single solid wheel, instead of the two that should make up each unit. This means there is nowhere for the guide teeth to locate into, which incidentally is handy as the guide teeth are missing from the tracks anyway!

The biggest problem with building this M48 will be deciding which version to actually build, I would recommend buying more than one. Thoroughly recommended.

Six decal options are included, two German, one Greece, one US, one Israeli and a Norwegian.

Available from all good model shops

9/10 - The Editor





Incoming



ITALERI

1:72ND PZ.KPFW. V PANTHER AUSF.G ITEM NO 7504

Another Fast Assembly Kit from Italeri aimed at the Wargamer, this time the Panther Ausf G. The box contains two Panthers and each comprises of 12 parts - a three piece hull, a four piece turret, two sets of wheels with tracks moulded on, a set of exhausts with flame dampeners, a separate notek light and hull mounted machine gun. The kit is nicely detailed even though all the tools and cables are moulded on. Again, as in the Tiger kit, no markings and colour options are included, only a list of paints required which is a shame. That said I would recommend this kit for the wargamer as you could easily built up your army in a very short space of time.

8/10 as Wargaming Kits - Jeff Adams



PART

1:35 ETCHED DETAIL SETS

This month we have some interesting sets including these laser cut printed paper flowers and leaves, which include a very nice set of instructions to help the modeller create very realistic flora and fauna. Turning to the etched brass sets we have a set to detail the ICM Studebaker 6x6 truck as well as three sets to detail the Tamiya 88mm Flak gun. I'm not sure why these couldn't have been incorporated into one set.

US6 STUDEBAKER TRUCK ITEM NO. P35-196

FLAK 36 88MM GUN ITEM NO. P35-196

FLAK 36 88MM GUN ARMoured SHIELD ITEM NO. P35-197

FLAK 36 88MM GUN BOXES AND OTHER FENDER PARTS ITEM NO. P35-198

1:72 IVY ITEM NO. 72004

1:48 SUNFLOWERS ITEM NO. 48001

1:35 ROSES ITEM NO. 48003

1:35 MAPLE LEAVES ITEM NO. 35002

1:35 PALM LEAVES ITEM NO. 35005

Available from www.jadar.com.pl

9/10 - The Editor



ABER

VARIOUS SCALE DETAIL SETS AND TURNED ALUMINIUM GUN BARRELS

As usual the guys at Aber have been keeping busy producing a variety of detail sets including some superb turned aluminium main gun barrels and a stunning set of 1:35 turned brass MG34 barrels designed to replace any kit ball mounted machine gun. The latest etched sets include a finely detailed set of 'Thorma' shield for Tamiya's 1:48 Panzer IV and at the other end of the scale modelling spectrum we have a set of brass towing shackles for Tamiya's 1:16 R/C Panther and Jagdpantzer.

GUN BARRELS

1:72 BRITISH 40MM 2PDR. BARREL FOR MATILDA MK.II ITEM NO. 72 L-30

1:48 U.S. 76.2MM M7 BARREL FOR M-10 TANK DESTROYER ITEM NO. 48 L-01

1:48 SOVIET 76.2 F-32 BARREL FOR KV-1 1941 MODEL ITEM NO. 48 L-11

SET OF 2 GERMAN TANK MG34 MACHINE GUN BARRELS ITEM NO. 35 L-63

ETCHED DETAIL SETS

1:48 PZ.KPFW. IV AUSF.J VOL.6 SIDE MESH SCREENS THORMA SCHILD ITEM NO. 48 021

1:48 PZ.KPFW.III AUSFEN FOR TAMIYA KIT ITEM NO. 48 037

1:35 SOVIET HEAVY TANK JS2 VOL.1 BASIC SET FOR TAMIYA KIT ITEM NO. 35 219

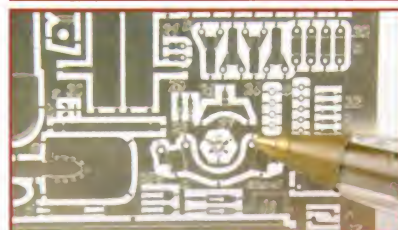
1:35 SOVIET HEAVY TANK JS2 VOL.2 FENDERS KIT ITEM NO. 35 220

1:25 GRILLES FOR SD.KFZ.181 TIGER I ITEM NO. 25 006

1:16 EARLY MODEL SHACKLES FOR PZ.KPFW.V PANTHER ITEM NO. 16 021

Available from www.historex-agents.com

10/10 - The Editor





VOYAGER MODEL

1:35 DETAIL SETS

Some interesting and I have to say incredible sets in this month from Voyager, including the ultimate Stryker Slat Armour set, which includes not only the slat armour but also the spaced armour fitted onto the hull plates themselves. The second big set is designed to virtually rebuild Dragon's Hummel, this set includes a new gun in resin complete with a beautifully turned aluminium barrel, in fact all you keep from the kit is the basic hull structure and the wheels. Definitely one for the super detailer.

HUMMEL SD.KFZ. 165 EARLY VERSION ITEM NO. PRO35003

SLAT ARMOR FOR STRYKER M1126 FOR AFV CLUB 35126 ITEM NO. PEA100

STEEL ROAD WHEELS FOR T34/76 ITEM NO. PEA104

AMMUNITION FOR HUMMEL/ SH18 HOWITZER PATTERN 1 ITEM NO. PEA114

SPACED ARMOUR FOR STRYKER M1126 FOR AFV CLUB 35126 ITEM NO. PEA116

WWII NASHORN/HORNISSE/HUMMEL FENDERS AND FLOOR FOR DML ITEM NO. PEA173

WWII HUMMEL EARLY VERSION BASIC ITEM NO. PE35174 FOR DML KIT ITEM NO. 35174

WWII HUMMEL EARLY VERSION ARMOUR PLATE FOR DML KIT ITEM NO. PE35175

STRYKER M1126 WITH SLAT ARMOUR THIS SET INCLUDES SPACED ARMOUR, SLAT ARMOUR AND SUSPENSION COVERS FOR AFV CLUB 35126 ITEM NO. PE35200

WWII SD.KFZ.222 4RAD FOR TAMIYA KIT ITEM NO. PE35204

WWII PZ.KPFW.II AUSF F FOR DRAGON KIT ITEM NO. 35205

WWII M4A1 MID PRODUCTION VERSION FOR TASCA 35010 ITEM NO. PE35208

FENDERS FOR PANZER II EARLY VERSION FOR DRAGON SMART KIT ITEM NO. PE35215

IDF 'SHOT' CENTURION MK5/1 FOR AFV CLUB KIT ITEM NO. PE35217

Available from www.voyagermodel.com

10/10 - The Editor



ARMO DECALS

1:72 WATERSLIDE DECALS

JAPANESE ARMOUR PART 1 ITEM NO. 72424

JAPANESE ARMOUR PART 3 ITEM NO. 72426

DEUTSCHES AFRIKA KORPS PART 2 ITEM NO. 72433

T-34/76 PART 2 ITEM NO. 72437

GERMAN AA ARTILLERY ITEM NO. 72438

JS FAMILY PART 1 ITEM NO. 72439

M4A1 SHERMAN PART 1 ITEM NO. 72442

M4A2 SHERMAN PART 1 ITEM NO. 72445

1:48 WATERSLIDE DECALS

KV FAMILY PART 3 ITEM NO. 48409

T-34/76 PART 2 ITEM NO. 48415

POLISH SHERMANS PART 1 ITEM NO. 48417

TIGERS IN AFRIKA ITEM NO. 48420

M4A1 SHERMAN PART 1 ITEM NO. 48423

M4A1 SHERMAN PART 2 ITEM NO. 48424

1:35 WATERSLIDE DECALS

POLISH SHERMANS PART 1 ITEM NO. 35403

JAPANESE ARMOUR PART 1 ITEM NO. 35415

DEUTSCHES AFRIKA KORPS PART 2 ITEM NO. 35429

GERMAN AA ARTILLERY ITEM NO. 35434

JS FAMILY PART 1 ITEM NO. 35435

M4A1 SHERMAN PART 1 ITEM NO. 35438

M4A2 SHERMAN PART 1 ITEM NO. 35439

T-34/76 PART 2 ITEM NO. 35433

Produced and available from www.jadar.com.pl

9/10 - The Editor



Next Issue

On sale May 1st 2008



KIWI FIREFLY, ON A WING AND A PRAYER

Les Smith describes the build of his Euro Militaire award winning Dragon Sherman VC Firefly



DANUBE DEFENDER

Dennis Brändle goes to town detailing Dragon's Panther AUSF.G Smart Kit

FOR YOUR SAFETY



Don't forget, when using solvents such as glues, paints, thinners and cleaning agents, always ventilate your work area thoroughly and wear a face mask.

When using power tools, side cutters or any tool that can suddenly break or create high-speed airborne particles, wear approved eye protectors with hard, clear lenses. Please always model in safety!



WEATHERING GUIDE

Mark Neville offers a step by step guide to his realistic weathering techniques

...and much more!

Due to many influencing factors, we cannot guarantee the appearance of the above projects, but we'll try our best!

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MAKING SIMPLE GROUNDWORK **PART 4**

This month we start painting the groundwork. Even though the materials used are produced in natural colours, it is still better to paint them for a more realistic 'scale' appearance.



Lifecolor acrylic paint has been chosen for the earth colour as it sprays and brush paints very well and also dries to an ultra flat finish.



The first stage is to give the entire groundwork including the grassed areas a coat of a suitable earth colour; in this case Lifecolor Sand has been used as the finished scene is to be set in the summer months.



The groundwork has been given a coat of sand, as can be seen in this photo the bright and garish green of the grass have been toned down considerably for a much more life-like effect.



To paint the grass in the appropriate shades, Humbrol enamel paints have been chosen, enamels have a longer drying time than acrylics making them ideal for dry-brushing, a combination of 225, 150, 120 and 131 have been used to mix the colour needed for the grass.



The first colour to be used is Humbrol No.225 Middle Stone. The paint is scooped out onto a suitable pallet, the secret to dry-brushing with enamels is to not stir the paint but to use the thick sludge that settles at the bottom of the tin.



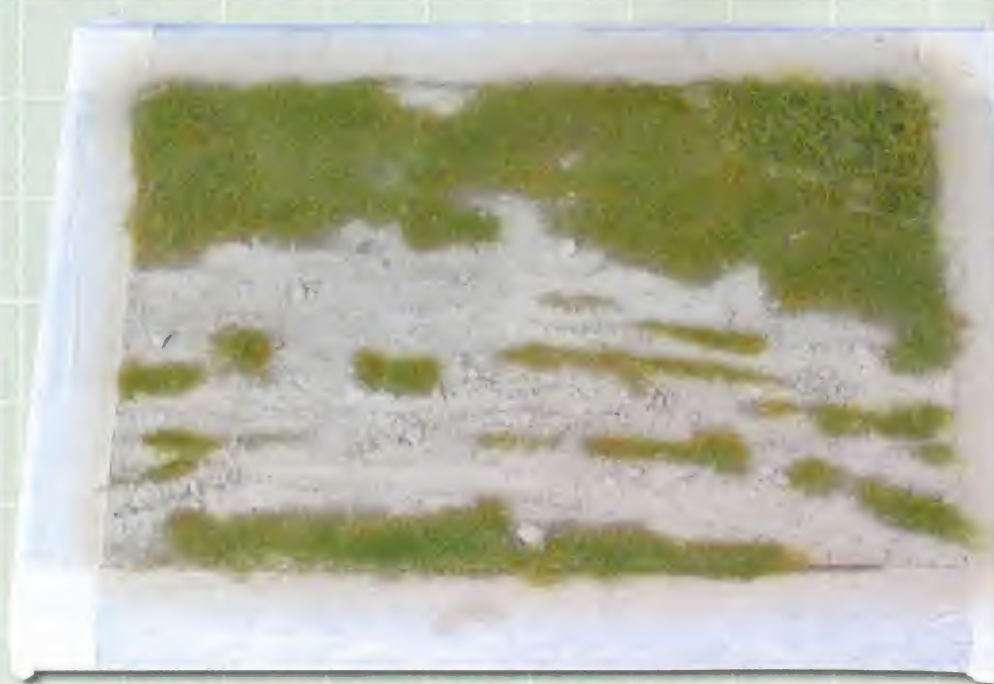
Once the brush has been dipped in the 'sludge', the excess paint is then removed onto a piece of kitchen roll.



The next step is to apply the paint to the grassed areas, this is best done using a random scrubbing motion, this makes ensures that every blade of grass gets an even coat.



Following the yellow colour the greens can be applied in the same manner, the ratios of each colour used are not important, it is simply a case of mixing them by eye until a pleasing shade is achieved.



The basic painting is now complete, the next stage involves adding details and features to the scene.



6-Pounder Cruiser

1/48 Crusader Mk.III British Cruiser Tank Mk.VI Item 32555

The Crusader tank was one of the mainstays of the British army in North Africa and this Mk.III variant armed with the 6-pounder gun has now been added to Tamiya's superb 1/48 MM Series. The larger gun turret is newly designed and sharp bolt details on the additional armor plating realistically capture the distinctive appearance of this cruiser tank. Furthermore, 2 types of main gun barrel, 2 types of side skirts, and 3 different sets of markings are included to provide modelers with a variety of build options. This model is perfect for display with its arch nemesis in North Africa, the German Panzer III, in a dramatic desert diorama or alongside the previously-released Mk.I/II and Mk.III Anti-Aircraft Tank Mk.III for an impressive lineup of the Crusader tank family.



Die-Cast Chassis

Length: 138mm

3 types of North African front markings.



Both normal and long gun barrels included.

Choose from 2 types of side skirts.

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Display the Crusader Mk.III together with the early Mk.I/II and the Mk.III Anti-Aircraft Tank Mk.III for an intriguing comparison of these different variants.



Crusader Mk.I/II British Cruiser Tank Mk.VI (32541)



British Crusader Mk.III Anti-Aircraft Tank Mk.III (32546)



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